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Japan

Noriega Arrest Termed 'Positive Development'

OW0401063190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0611 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 4 KYODO—The surrender and arrest of former Panamanian strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega is a "positive development" in that country's democratic process, Foreign Ministry officials said Thursday. "We can recognize this as a positive development," said a ministry official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We are hoping that Panama's problems will end quickly and that democratic procedures will be restored soon," he said. "But it is a problem between Panama, the U.S. and the Vatican, so it has nothing to do with the Japanese Government," he added.

The official was commenting on reports that Noriega surrendered Wednesday, nine days after taking refuge inside the Vatican's embassy office in Panama City. Officials said that while Japanese Ambassador Junpei Kato has returned to Panama, he has still not met with officials of the new government, which they said would signal tacit recognition.

Kaifu Pledges Sharing Knowhow With E. Europe

OW0401082790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0745 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Ise, Mie Pref., Jan. 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu offered Thursday to share Japan's business knowledge with Eastern Europe, saying that economic reform is the key to successful political reform.

"For freedom and democracy to take root the socialist and communist-style centralized economies must be transformed to free market economies," Kaifu told a news conference on the eve of a 9-day trip to Europe.

"Japan is not going to stop at providing financial assistance... If needed we will dispatch technicians," and make available managerial know-how, Kaifu said. The prime minister also called for cultural and educational exchanges, saying that stability in Eastern Europe will promote world peace.

Kaifu made the comments following a New Year's visit to Ise Grand Shrine, where he said he prayed for world peace and prosperity in Japan. The prime minister is expected to discuss assistance to Eastern Europe during a tour of Poland, Hungary, and Western Europe starting Monday. Japan has so far earmarked 200 million dollars in economic assistance for the 2 East European nations.

At home, Kaifu said he expects the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to win a majority in upcoming elections for the 512-seat House of Representatives. Kaifu indicated this majority would include conservative independents who would join the LDP after the election.

The Lower House election, widely expected to be held in mid-February, will be the first general election since the ruling LDP suffered its first postwar defeat in the House of Councilors election last July. Kaifu said he would work on an election strategy after his return from Europe.

Home Affairs Minister Kozo Watanabe and State Minister for Science and Technology Eizaburo Saito also joined the excursion to the ancient shrine, located some 470 kilometers southwest of Tokyo. The prime minister's New Year's visit to Ise Shrine—Japan's official shrine prior to its defeat in World War II—has become an annual ritual since 1964.

Agriculture Minister To Attend U.S. Meeting

OW0301075390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT 3 Jan 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Orlando, Florida, Jan. 3 KYODO—Agriculture Minister Michihiko Kano arrives here Wednesday for talks with major farm exporters who are growing skeptical about Japan's seriousness in opening up its huge agricultural market.

Japanese officials here said Kano plans to emphasize during meetings with his U.S., West European, Canadian, and Australian counterparts the need to ensure "food security" in large food importers like Japan. Despite Japan's commitment to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade liberalization talks on agriculture, sources expressed skepticism about any major Japanese concessions on the country's rice import ban due to the upcoming general elections.

After welcoming ceremonies and dinner on Wednesday, the agriculture ministers hold a 2-day "Quint" (5-party) ministerial discussion at a resort hotel (Mission Inn) in Howey-in-the-Hills just outside of Orlando Thursday and Friday. Like many regions on the U.S. east coast and in the south, this area was recently hard hit by a record-breaking cold spell which caused severe damage to citrus fruits and other crops.

In a personal letter to Quint participants, Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter said, "All of us will have the opportunity to become better acquainted and gain an understanding of each country's perspective on topics of mutual interest."

"The new year brings with it the chance to renew our nations' commitments to improving the prosperity of world agriculture," he said. "This gathering is a unique opportunity to proceed together in achieving this goal."

At the outset of the 2-day meeting, Yeutter will outline the agenda, and will be followed by Canadian Agriculture Minister Donald Mazankowski's speech on food safety. Concern about food safety has heightened in the U.S. by recent surveys which found that samples of low-fat and skim milk in several big U.S. cities were

contaminated with antibiotics or sulfa drugs used by farmers to combat infections and diseases in milk cows.

The surveys by THE WALL STREET JOURNAL and the Center for Science in the Public Interest, a consumer group based in Washington, have led to an investigation of retail milk supplies in 13 major cities by the Food and Drug Administration.

Kano will deliver his "food security" speech summarizing Japan's stand on "basic foodstuffs"—notably the nation's main staple of rice.

EC Agriculture Commissioner Ray Macsharry will address the question of environmental concerns from the 12-nation Common Market's standpoint.

John Kerin of Australia, a member of the 14-nation Cairns Group, will underscore the importance of international competition Friday morning before joining the four other ministers in a noon press conference.

Kano Comments in Florida Cited

OW0401063890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0416 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida, Jan. 3 KYODO—Agriculture Minister Michihiko Kano hopes to make his ministry more "reliable" to Japanese farmers who are becoming increasingly suspicious of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's [LDP's] farm policies. In explaining his background at a meeting of five agriculture ministers, Kano said the LDP's historic setback in the House of Councillors election last July was due partly to "the unpopular agricultural policies undertaken by the LDP," according to a press statement issued by his ministry.

The LDP-led government, bowing to pressure from the United States, agreed to open up its markets in beef, citrus fruits and other agricultural produce. A native of rice-growing Yamagata Prefecture, Kano is "one of the politicians who understands the recent changes surrounding Japan's agriculture," the statement said.

"Therefore," the ministry said, "Mr. Kano intends to establish a reliable administration on agriculture, forestry and fisheries by providing accurate information to the agricultural community." But his counterparts from the U.S., the 12-nation European Community, Canada and Australia are poised to seek Japan's renewed commitment to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade liberalization talks. Japan has agreed to present its restrictive rice import policy during the round under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The youngest Japanese agriculture minister in 30 years, Kano, 47, is also the youngest among the five chief delegates to the conference being held at this Florida resort.

Critical Year Ahead for Trade Ties With U.S.

OW3012104289 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 30 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 30 KYODO—The year 1990 will mark a critical juncture for Japan and the United States in resolving trade issues stemming from the bilateral trade imbalance. And trade analysts here say new complications may arise even before outstanding problems are resolved.

In addition to the challenge of completing talks on the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) by the summer as planned, more snags could develop simply because of the scope of the trade questions still confronting both countries. The initiative is aimed at removing structural barriers to trade between the two countries.

"As long as the trade gap is there, new disputes will continue to surface," a former Japanese ambassador to the U.S., Nobuo Matsunaga, said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE. Potential areas of fresh bilateral friction, according to Matsunaga, are issues having to do with Japanese business management style, labor relations and industrial groupings.

These issues along with a complex distribution system and allegedly exclusionary business practices—key topics under the current SII talks—are closely interlinked and deeply rooted in Japan's culture and tradition.

"The problem is that the settlement isn't likely to come about as easily as the U.S. hopes," Matsunaga said. Many of the structural barriers being discussed under the SII talks, for example, have to do with Japan's internal system, the reform or removal of which will take a long time, he said.

One U.S. analyst familiar with Japanese Government regulations and business practices stresses the need to fill the gap between rules and regulations that exist in Japan and the way the government applies them. He cited Japan's enforcement of the Antimonoply Act as an example. He said the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) must enforce the law more strictly so as to enhance market competition.

The FTC, however, usually limits its actions to warnings or cautions, and rarely imposes penalties on firms violating the Antimonopoly Law, the analyst said. Both Tokyo and Washington want to see their trade row resolved before the issues get out of hand and ignite political infighting. The likelihood, however, is that the issues will be politicized in both countries in 1990.

Bruce Stokes, an international correspondent of the national journal magazine of the U.S., spoke at a symposium in Tokyo recently of the possibility of a surge of "economic populism" in the U.S. In 1990. Stokes said candidates for the U.S. bipartisan elections in November 1990 "will take up economic issues appealing to voters' passion and sympathy, pushing for America's future."

To win the elections, U.S. lawmakers will place great emphasis on the need to protect U.S. workers against foreign competition, according to Stokes. He said the candidates will not necessarily try to stir up anti-Japanese feeling, but the growing economic threat posed by Japan will certainly be a "foil" to their political messages to the American people. Such prospects are based on the rapidly fading perception of the Soviet Union as a military threat, Stokes said.

If there is no Soviet threat, there is no need to worry about it, and this magnifies fears of Japan's economic power, he said. In Japan, meanwhile, general elections for the House of Representatives expected in mid-February will put the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the government under heavy pressure not to launch drastic reforms in the Japanese marketplace anytime soon.

Former Ambassador Matsunaga, now an adviser to the Foreign Ministry, says it is very likely that the U.S. will designate Japan as an unfair trading partner in April's second round of "Super 301" deliberations, if Japan fails to undertake structural reforms under the SII talks.

"Japan's Government must recognize or identify its problems independently and tackle them one by one without delay," Matsunaga said. "If not, U.S. administrators will feel they have been let down, and the cost will be tremendous for Japan itself." In the longer run, Matsunaga said, Japan's structural reforms must include the revision of its food security policy and imports of rice.

"The thicker the wall, the stronger the wind blows. Strengthen a barrier, and you will get harsher external pressures," Matsunaga said. "The U.S. has offered its rich market to the world to help other economies in the past, and now it is Japan's turn to share some of this burden." But how successfully Japan directs itself to the task will depend largely on the government's willingness to respond to U.S. demands in the face of a delicate situation at the polls and long-standing Japanese business practices.

Government Approves National Defense Budget

OW2912002689 Tokyo KYODO in English 1626 GMT 28 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 29 KYODO—The Government Friday approved a national defense budget for the 1990 fiscal year totaling just under 1 percent of the gross national product (GNP) estimate but including sufficient funds for front-line weaponry to fufill the country's military buildup plans. The double-edged budget for the year starting next April offers a substantial reply to U.S. calls to its Pacific ally for a strengthened military stance, while checking domestic concerns about exceeding the self-imposed 1 percent limit.

The 4,159.3 billion yen sum marks a 6.1 percent rise from the current fiscal year, weighing in at 0.997 percent of the Finance Ministry's 1990 GNP estimate of 417.2 trillion yen. This is the first time in 4 years the budget figure has not exceeded the 1 percent mark. The 1 percent goal, initiated in fiscal 1976, was first breached in fiscal 1987 under then Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Ministry officials said defense spending "naturally" came under the 1 percent mark due to the high GNP when presenting their draft budget December 24. But negotiations between the Defense Agency and the ministry pushed the figure over the ministry's declared aim of holding the budget to a 6 percent rise. Defense officials argued successfully for the "reactivation" of funds slated for a new group of high-tech tanks, additional warplanes, and missile-carrying vessels to satisfy goals slated for the final year of its 5-year mid-term buildup program. Further modernization measures are to be carried out under a new outline yet to be finalized.

The agency's research and development program received virtually all of some 104 billion yen requested for projects including the joint Japan-U.S. FSX fighter plane and new guided missile and communications technology. Some 34.6 billion yen for FSX-related contracts were approved though the total includes payments extending beyond the 1990 fiscal year.

While Japan's domestic arms industry supplies most of the nation's weaponry, about half of the production is carried out under technical license arrangements with U.S. companies. Disputes with the U.S. over the FSX fighter are thought to have firmed the agency's resolve to strengthen domestic capability in arms technology. The Finance Ministry decided to fund most of the search and surveillance craft called for in the buildup program as well as new F-15 fighter planes to replace the defense force's aging fleet.

After rejecting requests for an Aegis multiple-targeting equipped vessel, the last of nine guided missile destroyers, and three missile-bearing vessels, the ministry reinstated funds for the destroyer and two of the smaller ships. Most antisubmarine aircraft requested were also approved. The budget includes no funds for a new escort vessel for plutonium shipments to and from Europe to be built under the direction of Japan's coast guard authority, the Maritime Safety Agency.

The ability of a strengthened Japanese naval force to detect Soviet submarine movements is a key part of U.S. strategy for Japan to assume more of the defense burden in the Pacific. The perceived Soviet threat also loomed large behind Defense Agency requests for 30 advanced model tanks, at first rejected but reinstated in full after negotiations.

The northern island of Hokkaido is considered the most likely area for a Soviet invasion and a large part of Japan's land armaments and soldiers are stationed there. In Washington, U.S. officials had informal statements of praise for the budget, saying the strengthened defense stance contributed to global peace and prosperity. The

U.S. announced cuts in its own defense budget just before the U.S.-Soviet summit in Malta which declared a symbolic end to the cold war. But lessening superpower tensions in Europe have not yet been paralleled in Asia.

While praising the summit, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu supported Defense Agency arguments that continuing instability on the Korean peninsula and in Southeast Asia, coupled with Soviet arms deployments in Asia, made continued military modernization necessary. The 6.2 percent rise in defense spending accompanied an 8.2 percent jump in Official Development Assistance funding, another area where the U.S. has sought a greater Japanese contribution.

Other Asian nations have reacted negatively in the past to signs of increased Japanese military power, their sensitivity stemming from wartime memories of invasion. A ruling party majority virtually assures the budget's passage in the House of Representatives.

Government Approves Higher ODA Budget for 1990

OW2912013389 Tokyo KYODO in English 1618 GMT 28 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 29 KYODO—The Government Friday approved an 8.2 percent hike in Fiscal 1990 spending for Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to 817.5 billion yen, the largest increase among the nation's major expenses. The ODA outlays, to be implemented from April 1, fell short of the requested 833.9 billion yen, but marked a hefty jump from the 5.9 percent increase to 800 billion yen in the draft budget released by the Finance Ministry on Sunday.

The cabinet at a special meeting adopted the largest year-to-year increase in ODA spending since the 10-percent hike in fiscal 1985, in a move to recycle its huge external surpluses to the world economy.

Outlays for economic cooperation with other nations, most of which is counted as ODA, jumped 6.9 percent from the current national budget to 784.5 billion yen, reflecting Japan's 5-year program to provide 65 billion dollars to help debt-ridden developing nations restructure their economies.

At the July Paris summit meeting, then Prime Minister Sosuke Uno pledged the 5-year program. Earlier, former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita pledged at the 1988 Toronto economic summit to double Japan's ODA to over 50 billion dollars between 1988 and 1992. Japan's ODA spending in calendar 1988 amounted to 9.13 billion dollars. The fiscal 1990 ODA budget plan, securing Japan's position as the world's leading ODA donor on a dollar basis for the third consecutive year, also included outlays for programs aimed at improving the quality of ODA.

Under the 14,044 million yen allocated for improving the Foreign Ministry staff shortage in implementing ODA's technical cooperation programs, 30 people will be recruited for a new plan to dispatch retired technical experts to developing nations.

In addition, the ministry can hire 22 more officials for itself and 44 people for its affiliate ODA-related Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In Fiscal 1989, JICA officials increased by 26. The budget earmarked 461 million yen for setting up a new fund aimed at educating Japanese specialists to assist developing nations and for establishing a university devoted to aid studies. The Foreign Ministry initially asked for 530 million yen.

Bilateral grant-in-aid funds for economic development increased 1.6 percent from the current fiscal year to 162.1 billion yen. The amount included 32.4 billion yen, up 11 percent, in debt relief for the "poorest" countries. Total bilateral grants amounted to 201.1 billion yen, up 26 percent, when added to 39 billion yen in food aid and food production aid.

Funds totaling 26 billion yen were allocated as untied grant assistance for structural adjustment support to Sub-Saharan Africa. Japan pledged at the Paris summit to extend 600 million dollars for this purpose over 3 years starting from fiscal 1990.

Japan ranks last in the ratio of grant-in-aid in overall ODA spending among the 19-member Development Assistance Committee (DAC) under the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which coordinates joint Third World aid strategies among the industrialized nations.

ODA spending on bilateral technical cooperation, including training of personnel from developing nations, increased 7.8 percent to 167.3 billion yen. To promote cooperation with nongovernmental organizations, 220 million yen was allocated, double the figure for fiscal 1989.

Contributions to international organizations totaled 123.9 billion yen. Among them, 5 billion yen outlays for global environmental protection included 1.02 billion yen, up 65.9 percent, for the United Nations Environmental Program and 680 million yen, an increased of 205 percent, to the International Tropical Timber Organization. Japan promised at the Paris summit to contribute more to global environmental protection.

Funds totaling 285.4 billion yen, up from 264.6 billion yen in fiscal 1989, were allocated for the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), a major government organ for implementing ODA programs. In line with its pledge to support reforms in Hungary and Poland, the Government allocated 887 million yen (6.53 million dollars) in the fiscal 1990 budget outside the ODA spending for recruiting trainees from these nations and to research development projects.

Business Leaders Praise Fiscal 1990 Budget

OW2912003989 Tokyo KYODO in English 1644 GMT 28 Dec 89

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 29 KYODO—Business leaders Friday applauded the fiscal 1990 national budget plan, saying that it reflects the Government's efforts to make state finances sound without dependence on national debt.

"It is a result of efforts (by the government) to achieve simultaneously two contradictory goals of meeting various public demands on the fiscal front toward the 21st century and making state finances sound," said Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren). Saito made the comment after the cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu adopted the 66,274 billion yen budget early Friday for the next fiscal year, which calls for skipping the issue of debt-financing bonds for the first time in 15 years.

The budget, subject to Diet approval, also features increased spending on defense, Official Development Assistance (ODA), and environmental protection.

Takashi Ishihara, president of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), praised the budget for showing Japan's commitment to playing a bigger international role.

Eiji Suzuki, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren), said that the spending growth in such categories is appropriate in light of the nation's increasing international role and burdens Japan should share with other nations.

The budget, viewed as neutral to the economy, also drew positive words from business leaders over relatively slow spending growth in net operating expenditures and public works. "The level of such spending growth is appropriate," said Rokuro Ishikawa, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, taking a similar view to Suzuki.

But Ishihara of Keizai Doyukai urged the Government to continue its efforts to slash the national debt. "The time is ripe for the Government to try to reduce the national debt as tax revenues are growing steadily," Ishihara said.

Despite eliminating the issue of debt-financing bonds, the fiscal 1990 budget shows evidence of heavy national debt as debt-servicing costs account for 21.6 percent of overall general-account spending.

The Finance Ministry estimates the outstanding balance of government bonds, including those issued to finance public works, at some 162 trillion yen at the end of the current fiscal year, equivalent to some 40 percent of the nation's gross national product (GNP).

Industrial leaders also hailed the budget, saying that it marks a step forward toward balancing state finances without issuing national debt, while showing Japan's commitment to a more international role.

"It is in line with the government policy of achieving a balanced budget with sustained economic growth," said Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association.

"It's notable that more funds are being set aside for ODA and protection of the global environment," said Toyoda, president of Toyota Motor Corp.

Yutaka Kume, president of Nissan Motor Co., praised the budget, calling it less dependent on government bonds and a step toward stabilizing state finances. However, Kume called on the Government to continue its fiscal reforms "in spite of growing tax revenues amid the present economic growth that has lasted over 3 years. "The government should not rein in fiscal reforms on grounds of the booming economy. I would ask them to make fiscal policy flexible in order to concentrate on specific areas of fiscal expenditures," he said.

Businessmen Surveyed on Prospects for Economy

OW0201093990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 2 KYODO—Japan's top businessmen believe the Japanese economy will stay strong throughout this year but they fear a possible recession in the U.S. economy, according to a KYODO NEWS SERVICE poll released Tuesday. The 100 top executives questioned for the survey late last month cautioned that trade frictions between Japan and the U.S. will further escalate this year as there will be no major improvement in Japan's trade surpluses.

Most of the executives said Japan's real gross national product (GNP) growth in fiscal 1990, starting next April 1, will be well above the government's official estimate of 4.0 percent. But 60 of them pointed out that a possible U.S. recession prior to the midterm elections in the U.S. may hurt the growth potential of the Japanese economy. Eight said a downturn is possible in the Japanese economy due to labor shortages.

Six of the executives said a loss of power by the Liberal Democratic Party in a general election of the House of Representatives expected in February could also cause an economic downturn, and a similar number said a downturn could result from a further appreciation of the dollar against the yen. The poll added that many executives see the average pay increase rate in the annual "labor offensive" this spring as being in the upper 5 percent level, up from last year's average 5.17 percent hike for leading companies as compiled by the Ministry of Labor.

Presidents or top executives of 53 manufacturers, including Nippon Steel Corp., Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. and Sony Corp., and 47 nonmanufacturers

such as Mitsui and Co., Tokyo Electric Power Co., and Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank Ltd. took part in the survey.

Philippines To Deport Japanese Linked To Gang

OW0301063390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0505 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Manila, Jan. 3 KYODO—A fourth Japanese national allegedly involved in gun-running for a criminal syndicate in Japan will be deported Wednesday, the immigration and deportation chief said. Andrea Domingo, acting commissioner of the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) told reporters that Hideo Kakiage will take an afternoon flight for Tokyo.

Kakiage was arrested on November 20 together with three other Japanese—Tatsuhiro Fujita, Katsuhiko Sasaki and Mikio Sakaguchi—in a hotel room where immigration agents seized hundreds of bullets. Fujita, Sasaki and Sakaguchi were deported last Thursday.

Former CID Chief Bienvenido Alano has said that the four were members of the Matsubakai gang based in Gunma Prefecture. All four denied the gun-running charges, saying they were in the country to look at business prospects. Immigration officials said the four violated immigration laws by engaging in business without a working permit—also a ground for deportation.

Private Rocket Manufacturing Company Planned

OW0301133190 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] Space-related enterprises in Japan will soon establish a private rocket manufacturing company. In the latter half of the 1990's, Japanese enterprises are expected to join in the large-type commercial rocket market in which the United States and Europe are in a dominant position. Large-type H-2 rockets, which the Space Development Project Corporation is developing with an aim to launch 3 years hence, are said to be rated as world class. They will be used for launching broadcast satellites in the latter half of the 1990's.

Space related enterprises will soon establish a rocket manufacturing company to produce H-2 rockets for commercial purposes. Such airframe manufacturers as Mitsubish Heavy Industries, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, and Nissan, and such satellite manufacturers as Nippon Electric Industry Company, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, and trading firms and banks will join in establishing the new company. It is planned to manufacture about four rockets a year. These participating enterprises are also making preparations for setting up another company to launch rockets. Thus, Japanese enterprises are expected to make inroads into the large-type commercial rocket market in full scale. However, China and the Soviet Union have expressed their intention to participate in the rocket market in which the United States and Europe are in a dominant position.

The United States is indicating strong precautions against Japan using its advanced high technology to join in the space industry. It is feared that these Japanese moves may set off fresh friction between Japan and the United States. For this reason, Japan plans to foster the rocket manufacturing company by actively participating in international joint development projects including the project for manned space stations in close cooperation mainly with the United States, thereby avoiding friction with other nations.

Mongolia

Gombosuren Comments on Visit to Soviet Union

OW3112033489 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 1200 GMT 30 Dec 89

["Gist" of an interview granted to UNEN by Foreign Minister Gombosuren after concluding his "successful working visit" to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Government; date, place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Appraising his visit, Gomosuren said it was charaterized by unprecedented openness and constructiveness, which enabled the two sides to truly analyze all aspects of outstanding bilateral problems pending, and needed solution and topics related to international matters. We considered many issues like trade, price [words indistinct], joint venture efficiency, different forms of bilateral cooperation, said the minister.

One of the major outcomes of the visit was that the sides spelled out the obstacles that hampered a solution of outstanding problems and outlined ways to overcome these difficulties.

The sides were unanimous that openness marked the common permanent conduct criteria at all levels of Mongol-Soviet relations, said the minister.

He indicated that the sides considered the issue of Soviet troops temporarily stationed on the territory of the Mongolian People's Republic. It is common knowledge that the 75 percent of the Soviet troops will be withdrawn in 1989-90, and the sides have agreed to solve the matter of the remaining Soviet troops with the eye on promoting trust and mutual understanding in Asia.

Besides, it has been agreed that the two Foreign Ministries will study jointly all the archive material connected with bilateral relations deposited at the Soviet Foreign Ministry. It is (?also) imperative to clarify all the blank parts in the history of the two countries' relations, said Gomsosuren.

Regarding the treaty terms of bilateral relations, Mr Gombosuren went on to say that Mongolia will try to deepen its mostly trusted and close ties with the Soviet Union, which fully meets the (?talents) and role of the Mongolian people. Moreover, the two countries plan to conduct bilateral trade in hard currency, which will

enable both Mongolia and the Soviet Union to integrate into the world economic system.

Regarding Mongolia's foreign policy priorities, Mr Gombosuren said that as a nation [words indistinct] Mongolia will give proper attention to the Asian-Pacific region and will continue in direction, first, to establish bilateral relations with the regional countries. Second, improve Mongolia's involvement in the international organizations of the Asian and Pacific region. And third, make all possible efforts to work together with the regional states in the solution of the common problems existing in the region. Furthermore, Mongolia tries to expand its relations with the Western industrialized nations on the basis of mutual benefit. It is important to convince the international community that Mongolia is a developing country so as to receive proper aid from different international organizations, said the minister.

Concluding his interview, Foreign Minister Gombosuren said that the aforementioned are Mongolia's 1990 target goals. In 1990 there will be a Mongolian-Chinese summit, a visit of the Mongolian prime minister to Japan. Also [words indistinct] Asian Development Bank, Mongolia will intensify its efforts of acquiring the status of full member of the nonaligned movement.

The minister said that the coordination of the cooperation plan with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in the next 5 years will be a special feature of 1990 and, of course, priority heed will be given to remodeling multilateral relations with the East European socialist countries with due account of the undergoing renewal processes there and making (?more countries efficient).

North Korea

Kim Il-song Meets Diplomats on New Year's Eve

SK0201131690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1100 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 1 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on December 31 met the diplomatic corps here when it paid a congratulatory visit to him on the new year 1990.

Present on the occasion were O Chin-u, Yi Chong-ok, Yon Hyong-muk, Pak Song-chol, Kim Yong-nam and director of a department of the Central Committee, the WPK Kim Yong-son.

Diplomatic envoys of various countries offered warm new year's greetings to President Kim Il-song and wished him good health and long life.

Kim Chong-il Exchanges More New Year's Tidings

SK0401041890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 4 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il exchanged new year cards with foreign party and state leaders on the occasion of the new year, 1990.

He exchanged them with Deng Xiaoping, former chairman of the military commission of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Communist Party of China [CPC]; Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPC; Yang Shangkun, president of the People's Republic of China; Li Peng, premier of the state council of the PRC; Wan Li, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC; Li Xiannian, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference; Yao Yilin, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the CPC and vice-premier of the state council of the PRC; Song Ping, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the CPC; Wang Zhen, vice- president of the PRC; Tian Jiyun, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the CPC and vice-premier of the state council of the PRC; Wu Xueqian, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., The CPC and vice-premier of the state council of the PRC; Li Ximing, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the CPC; Song Renqiong, vice-chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the CPC; Xi Zhongxun, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC; Wen Jiabao, alternate member of the secretariat of the C.C., the CPC; Mieczyslaw Rakowski, first secretary of the C.C., the Polish United Workers' Party; and Captain Blaise Compaore, chairman of the people's front, head of state and head of Government of Burkina Faso.

Comrade Kim Chong-il also exchanged new year cards with Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Kwon-Led Chongnyon Group Pays Official Visit

Kim Il-song Receives Delegation

SK0201131490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 1 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on December 31 received the group of Koreans from Japan headed by Kwon Son-hwi, director of the General Secretariat of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), which is visiting the socialist motherland to express thanks to him.

Present on the occasion were officials concerned.

The head of the group presented new year's greetings to President Kim Il-song and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song had a conversation with the members of the group in a cordial atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Meets School Children

SK0201131790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1105 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 1 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on December 31 met Korean school children from Japan who are staying in the socialist homeland.

Present there were Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, and Choe Ki-yong, chairman of the Education Commission.

The children presented bouquets of flowers to President Kim Il-song with new year greetings and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song cordially conversed with the children and posed for a photograph with them.

Functionaries Gather for New Year

SK0301081590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0755 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—A new year gathering of functionaries of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) was held at the Korean Hall in Tokyo on January 1 to make a loyal pledge for 1990, according to a KNS report.

The attendants heard the new year address made by the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Conveyed at the gathering was a message of greetings sent by Marshal Kim Il-song to Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, on the new year.

The attendants hardened their determination to vigorously advance under the banner of the chuche idea, in hearty response to the teachings given by the great leader in the new year and make this year, the first year of the 1990s, shine as a year of victory which will witness a new turn in the development of the Koreans' movement in Japan.

The gathering was attended by Han Tok-su and other Chongnyon functionaries.

Similar gatherings took place in all local headquarters of Chongnyon on the same day.

Reaction to Kim Il-song Speech

SK0301103290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—Officials of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and Koreans in Japan who are now visiting the socialist homeland are hardening their determination to creditably fulfil the militant tasks set forth by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his new year address.

Kim Chong, teacher at Choson University under Chongnyon, said:

The new year address of the great leader serves as an inspiring banner which powerfully arouses the Korean people and overseas compatriots who are struggling to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche started on the peak of Mt. Paektu under the banner of the chuche idea to a proud struggle to win a new victory and perform exploits.

Last year, the anti-socialist moves of the imperialists were intensified unprecedentedly and the desperate offensive of the enemy was concentrated on our Republic. Even under this rigorous circumstance our people have confidently taken the road of revolution without slightest vacillation, following the party.

Ho Mal-ye, teacher of Tono Korean Primary and Middle School in Kifu Prefecture, said: Through the actual life, I have felt that only the socialist system is the most popular system that fully provides the popular masses with the position of the master of the state and society.

She expressed the belief that the Korean people will fulfil the vast tasks this year with success under the tested guidance of the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. And she vowed to devotedly fight for the prosperity and development of the homeland and for the genuine socialist system.

Yi Chong-sok, director of the Department of Culture of the Standing Committee of the Hyogo Prefectural Headquarters of Chongnyon, said Korean residents in Japan are now hardening their determination to make this year a year of historical turn in pulling down the barrier of the division and opening the door of reunification.

Chong Hwa-kwi, teacher of Korean Primary School No. 7 in Aichi Prefecture, stressed that the national pride and self-confidence of the Korean people who are living and making revolution under the guidance of the great leader and the dear leader is what only the Korean people can have.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings

SK0201102590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0851 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 2 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on January 1 sent a message of

greetings to Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), on the new year 1990.

Recalling that the Chongnyon functionaries and Koreans in Japan last year successfully carried out the patriotic tasks facing Chongnyon, strengthened the movement of Koreans in Japan and developed it to a higher stage and made a great contribution to the acceleration of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by making a vigorous advance under the banner of the DPRK in difficult conditions created in an alien country by the malicious anti-DPRK and anti-Chongnyon moves of the reactionaries at home and abroad, President Kim Il-song in the message expressed pleasure over the great successes made by them and highly appreciated them.

Noting that the year 1990 will be a very significant year marking the 45th anniversary of the liberation of the homeland and the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon and an important year in which the first-year tasks for the implementation of the decisions of the 15th congress of Chongnyon will be fulfilled, the message said:

With confidence in the victory of socialism and the cause of national reunification, the entire Chongnyon functionaries and the Koreans in Japan should in the new year strenuously push ahead with the patriotic work, further strengthen Chongnyon organizationally and ideologically and constantly expand its ranks to suit the changed reality.

The present situation is daily developing in favour of our people's struggle for the reunification of the country.

Chongnyon should check and frustrate the "two Koreas" plot of the splitists, actively strive to realize the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and support and encourage in every way the just, patriotic struggle of the South Korean people for making South Korean society independent and democratic and reunify the country through a more energetic mass movement of all compatriots in conformity with the requirements of the situation favourable for reunification. Chongnyon should also strengthen friendship and solidarity with the Japanese people and progressive people of the world so they may actively support our just cause of national reunification. The message wished the entire Chongnyon functionaries and 700,000 Koreans in Japan happiness.

Kim Il-song Receives Message

SK0301102790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—The great leader Marshal Kim Il-song received a congratulatory letter on January 1 from the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), greeting the new year 1990.

On the new year the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon wholeheartedly extends to the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song, genius of mankind and sun of the nation, warmest felicitations and best wishes carrying the ardent reverence and loyalty of the entire Chongnyon functionaries and compatriots in Japan, the letter said.

The last year 1989 was a year of victory which witnessed a new turn in the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of chuche and proudly demonstrated to the whole world the honor of Korea under the wise guidance of the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the letter noted, and went on:

The people in the homeland energetically stepped up the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, under the outstanding guidance of you the great leader and the sagacious leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and thus vigorously pushed ahead with unprecedentedly large-scale construction including the completion of the first stage project of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex, one more grandiose monumental edifice in socialist construction, and reaped bumper crops rare in recent years through the implementation of the requirements of the chuche farming method. As a result the potentials of the independent national economy of our country were further augmented and a solid foundation was laid to radically improve the people's living standard.

In particular, the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students successfully held in Pyongyang amid blessings and admiration of the progressive youth and students and other people of the world fully showed to the world people the invincible might of chuche Korea where the leader, the party and the masses are united as one and march forward toward victory along the road of chuche, and imbued hundreds of millions of progressive people with a strong faith in the cause of anti-imperialist independence and socialism.

Last year, you the great leader put forward new proposals for national reunification to check and frustrate the "two Koreas" plot of the separatists within and without, dynamically aroused the entire fellow countrymen at home and abroad in the nationwide struggle to bring earlier the spring of reunification, and wisely led Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan to make great progress in their patriotic work, said the letter.

It expressed the firm determination of Chongnyon functionaries and compatriots in Japan to keep a tight hold on the banner of the chuche idea, the banner of chajusong, given by the great leader, and to develop the patriotic work of Chongnyon onto a new higher stage.

The letter heartily wished Marshal Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Kim Chong-il Receives Letter

SK0301102490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0957 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il received a congratulatory letter on January 1 from the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) on the new year 1990.

Noting that last year was a year of glory in which the strength of the people of Korea united with a single heart, the leader, the party and the masses forming an integral whole, and the unparalleled superiority of the socialist system of chuche were powerfully demonstrated all over the world, the letter says: Last year you, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, brought the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students to a great success on the largest scale and highest level as a grand festival of the nation and of mankind, and published immortal classical works illumining the road of the era of Chajusong.

You, Comrade Kim Chong-il, wisely led the people in the homeland in the campaign for grand socialist construction last year, consolidating our republic more firmly as a powerful socialist country of independence, self-sustenance and self-reliance in national defence, the letter says, and stresses: Our homeland which is confidently racing along an untrodden path for the complete victory of socialism, holding aloft the banner of socialism and the banner of anti-imperialist independence under your tested guidance, throws its brilliant rays all over the world as a beacon of hope for the hundreds of millions of progressive people of the world.

The letter recalls that Comrade Kim Chong-il with a lofty intention to achieve national reunification in our generation at any cost wisely led the all-nation struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and constantly took care that the guidance of the fatherly leader President Kim Il-song reached more satisfactorily Chongnyon and the Koreans in Japan.

The letter stresses:

We will further strengthen ideological education to firmly establish the chuche-based revolutionary world outlook among the functionaries and Koreans in Japan, so that they may cherish deep in their hearts such national pride and self-confidence as thinking that the idea of the great leader President Kim Il-song and you the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is best, the line and policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the DPRK are best and the chuche Korea is best and resolutely defend the socialist homeland and make an active contribution to its prosperity and development with pure and clean loyalty and patriotic enthusiasm of the 700,000 Koreans in Japan.

In order to make a worthy contribution to the national cause of turning the 1990s into a decade of the achievement of national reunification, we will bend all our efforts to achieve a great unity of the whole nation under the banner of national salvation through reunification and realize the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and support and encourage in every way the righteous struggle of the South Korean people for independence against U.S. imperialism and for democratisation against fascism.

The letter sincerely wishes Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and a long life.

Kim Il-song Receives Tidings From Hanminjon

SK0301080290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0736 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on January 1 received a congratulatory message from the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) on the new year 1990.

On this historical first morning filled with hopes the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front sincerely extends warmest congratulations and wishes for longevity, reflecting the boundless respect of all the vanguard fighters and patriotic people of broad strata in South Korea, to you President Kim Il-song, the great sun of the nation whom the entire fellow countrymen look up to, the message says.

The whole country and the entire people have turned out and kindled fierce flames of grand construction programmes all the year round to implement respected President Kim Il-song's strategic plan and intentions, with the result that substantial successes have been registered, including the completion of the first-stage project of the world's leading Sunchon Vinalon Complex which is of decisive significance in the fulfilment of the Third Seven-Year Plan and other key industrial construction and the construction of the Kwangbok Street, the May Day Stadium and other magnificent and beautiful grand monumental edifices which demonstrate the grit of the Workers' Party of Korea, the message notes, and stresses:

"t was thanks to the wise leadership of you the great President that, although the anti-DPRK moves of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges became more frantic than ever before, the brothers in the North could answer the enemy's counter-revolutionary offensive with a revolutionary offensive without the slightest vacillation and smash it and firmly defend the dignity and honour of socialist Korea.

Last year, too, you clearly indicated the direction of the times on the basis of a profound analysis of and penetration into the antagonism and struggle between progress and reaction in the international arena and personally carried on energetic external activities, thus making immortal contributions to the human historical cause for the development of socialism, for independence against imperialism and for anti-nuke peace.

Pointing out that a leaping progress was made in the South Korean people's transformation movement and reunification movement for anti-U.S. national salvation last year, the message says:

In particular, the great chuche idea, the genuine truth indicating the way of shaping the destiny of the nation and people, was briskly disseminated last year, with the result that the consciousness of reunification through alliance with communism has grown immensely intense among the people of broad strata along with the consciousness of anti-U.S. independence and that became a great impetus to the transformation movement and the reunification movement.

In the new year we will noticeably promote the work of awakening and organizing the people of all walks of life, holding ever higher the banner of the immortal chuche idea, and thus bring the anti-U.S. national salvation movement with people as the leading force to the highest tide ever, smash the "two Koreas" plot of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges by a nationwide grand march toward independence and reunification and open a new broad avenue for reunification through confederation.

The message wholeheartedly wishes President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Message Sent to Kim Chong-il

SK0301080890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0746 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il on January 1 received a congratulatory message from the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) on the new year 1990.

You the sagacious leader Comrade Kim Chong-il brilliantly recorded the road of grand march for the accomplishment of the cause of chuche with your tested guidance and prodigious strategy last year, too, the message says, and continues:

You the sagacious leader with your energetic ideological and theoretical activities illumined more brightly the course of advance of socialist Korea, strengthened the leadership ability of the Workers' Party of Korea and the function of the people's power in every way and further solidified as firm as a rock the unity and cohesion of the whole party, the whole country and the entire people in ideology and purpose, with the leader as the centripetal point.

Under the wise guidance of you the sagacious leader the whole party, the whole country and the entire people made again a startling leap and feats in the revolution and construction by waging a heroic struggle confronting and smashing with revolutionary offensive the counter-revolutionary offensive of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges to impair the authority of chuche Korea.

Socialist Korea under the guidance of you the sagacious leader deeply convinced the whole world of the decisive superiority of the socialist system of chuche over the corrupt and ailing capitalist system by constantly making a long drive.

This amazing reality in the northern half of the country is a proof of the greatness of the guidance of you the sagacious leader who turn adversity into favorable conditions and open up a bright future, tiding over any difficulties and trials with brilliant resources.

Last year in South Korea was days when the movement for a change surged to a high tide and developed with durability in an acute confrontation between the national democratic forces and the colonial fascist forces.

Our "Hanminjon" analyzed and appraised in good time the grim situation in which bloody violence held sway and put forward a scientific, chuche-oriented stratagem of struggle reflecting the will and desire of the people of all segments for national salvation and strenuously organized and waged the anti-U.S., anti-dictatorship struggle for its realization.

It was under the brilliant rays of the chuche idea that the movement for independence, democracy and reunification developed in organic adhesion and the awakening and organisation of the people was accelerated.

We will vigorously stage the anti-U.S., anti-dictatorship struggle from the first year of the 1990s, filled with great hopes which promises the reunification of the country, cherishing as precious assets the proud successes and experience of the struggle in the 80s which developed on the crest of the waves of the main stream of the era of chajusong, and thus make a new victorious advance in the movement for independence, democracy and reunification without fail.

The message wholeheartedly wishes good health and long life to comrade Kim Chong-il.

Cuban Revolution Anniversary Marked, Hailed

Kim Il-song Greets Castro

SK3112095989 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0848 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 31 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution.

The message says:

The victory of the Cuban revolution was a brilliant fruition of the arduous struggle of the Cuban people for freedom and liberation and a historical event with which socialism was expanded to the Western hemisphere to strike its roots.

Since the victory of the revolution, the Cuban people, closely rallied behind the Communist Party of Cuba headed by you, have courageously overcome the direct threat of armed intervention, economic blockade and all other subversive acts and sabotage by imperialists and accelerated socialist construction and thus completely changed the appearance of the country, and are now striving hard to further develop, complete and defend socialism.

The Republic of Cuba is a beacon of hope for the Latin American peoples in the struggle for sovereignty and independence and the triumphal advance of the Cuban revolution is a hard blow to the imperialists' attempts to destroy socialism from within.

The Korean people extend full support and firm solidarity to the Cuban people, their revolutionary comrades-in-arms and class brothers, who are waging a resolute struggle to safeguard the sovereignty of the country and its territorial integrity and peace and security in Central America and the Carribean region, steadfastly upholding the banner of socialism, under the difficult condition of direct confrontation with U.S. imperialism.

We are convinced that the militant friendship and the bonds of solidarity between our two parties, two countries and two peoples closely linking the Eastern post and the Western post of socialism will further expand and develop in full scale through the common struggle to check and frustrate the imperialists' moves of aggression and war and win the victory of the cause of peace, socialism and communism.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I sincerely wish you and your people more brilliant achievements in the future struggle to implement the decisions of the third congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, consolidate the achievements of the revolution and further develop the country.

Embassy Greeted on Anniversary

SK3112100389 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0856 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 31 (KCNA)—Baskets of flowers were sent to the Cuban Embassy here from the ministries of the Administration Council and Central Organs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution.

The baskets of flowers were conveyed to Cuban Ambassador Juan Jose Leon Vega on December 31 in the name of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of External Economic Affairs, the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the General Bureau of Diplomatic Corps Affairs.

O Chin-u Attends Reception

SK0401050890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 4 (KCNA)—Juan Jose Leon Vega, Cuban ambassador to Korea, hosted a reception at the Ongnyu Restaurant Wednesday evening on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution.

Present there on invitation were O Chin-u, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, and other senior officials, and diplomatic envoys of various countries in Pyongyang.

Ambassador Juan Jose Leon Vega in his speech elaborated on the achievements made by the Cuban people after the victory of the revolution. The Cuban people will give a deserved answer to the renewed act of aggression of the U.S. imperialists, he declared.

The ambassador denounced the U.S. imperialists' brutal act of aggression against Panama. The Cuban people strongly demand that the U.S. troops withdraw from Panama at once, he said.

Referring to the present international situation, he declared that Cuba would defend socialism and constantly build it.

Noting that the relations between the two countries have been developing excellently in all domains since the historical meeting between the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and the Supreme Commander of the Cuban Revolution Comrade Fidel Castro in Pyongyang in March 1986, he said this delights all of us.

It is a principled policy of Cuba to support the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, he stated.

He, on behalf of the communist party, the government and the people of Cuba, expressed unswerving support to the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], the government of the DPRK and the Korean people in their just struggle to get the nuclear weapons and the U.S. imperialist aggression forces withdrawn from South Korea and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country without foreign interference.

Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK and vice-premier, in his speech said that the victory of the Cuban revolution was a historical event which opened to her people a broad road toward socialism and a phase of turning point in the revolutionary struggle of the Latin American people.

After the victory of the revolution the Cuban people have firmly defended the gains of the revolution, bravely facing the repeated military aggression and economic blockade of the U.S. imperialists, and built a powerful socialist state in the Western hemisphere, he noted, adding:

Today the Cuban people, adhering to a resolute anti-imperialist stand and revolutionary principle, are decisively smashing the anti-Cuban moves of the enemies and stepping up the revolution and construction along a straight road.

He strongly denounced the anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists as a wanton violation of the sovereignty of the republic of Cuba and expressed full support to and firm solidarity with the Cuban people in their struggle to check and frustrate them.

Stating that the friendship between Korea and Cuba is being consolidated and developed into a more vitalized and unbreakable one as it is based on the close intimacy formed between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the outstanding leader of the Cuban People Comrade Fidel Castro, he stressed: We will in the future consolidate the friendship and unity with the Cuban people as firm as a rock and struggle in firm unity with them.

Cuban Revolution Anniversary Viewed

SK3112094989 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 31 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates an editorial article to the 31st anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution.

The article says in part:

The victorious Cuban revolution was a historical event heralding the birth of a socialist state in the Western hemisphere.

The courageous Cuban people, holding aloft the slogan "motherland or death, we will win," have successfully repulsed the aggression, intervention and blockade of the U.S. imperialists, defended with credit the sovereignty of the country and the gains of the revolution and pressed ahead with the socialist revolution and construction.

All the successes achieved in Cuba are unthinkable apart from the correct guidance of the Communist Party of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz.

It is because the party's line and policy are correct and the entire people are closely rallied behind the party that today Cuba is firmly adhering to the red banner of the revolution, the banner of socialism.

The heroic Cuban people are faithful to the socialist cause and to the revolutionary principle and internationalism. They are inspiring the fighting people by their practical example. The international position of socialist Cuba is rising as days pass by.

The U.S. imperialists who have tried to stifle Cuba from the very day of the victory of the Cuban revolution are now getting more frantic in their anti-Cuba campaign than ever before.

To cope with the prevailing situation, the Cuban people are holding higher the slogan "socialism or death". No force on earth can conquer the Cuban people full of confidence of sure victory of socialism, indomitable fighting spirit and revolutionary optimism.

It is the unswerving determination and will of the Cuban people to advance forward under the banner of socialism.

The Korean people will as ever stand firm on the side of the Cuban people and extend full support and militant solidarity to their just struggle to foil the U.S. imperialists' unceasing anti-Cuban moves, build socialism and preserve and consolidate peace in the Carribean region and Central America.

Austrailian Socialist Delegation Holds Talks

SK3112093489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 31 (KCNA)—Talks were held here today between Choe Tae-Pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and P. Symon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Australia.

Present on the occasio . were Kim Yong-sun, director, and Kim Yang- kon, vice-director, of a department of the WPK Central Committee.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Delegation Honored at Party

SK3112095089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0829 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 31 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) gave a party Saturday in honor of P. Symon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Australia (SPA), and his companion on a visit to our country.

Addressing the party, Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, said that the SPA is now striving hard to expand and strengthen the party ranks and rally the working class and all other progressive forces and thus organize and mobilize them in the struggle against the arbitrariness of monopoly capital.

He said that the SPA, advocating an independent, non-aligned foreign policy, demands the abolition of nuclear weapons and prohibition of nuclear test and conducts brisk activities for the withdrawal of U.S. military bases from its country, thus contributing to the accomplishment of the common cause of the people in the Pacific region for peace and security.

He highly estimated the righteous activities of the SPA and extended firm solidarity with it.

Noting that to strengthen friendship between the two parties conforms to the common desire of the people in Asia and the Pacific region to live in a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons, he stressed: we will in the future, too, make every possible effort to further expand and develop friendly relations with the SPA.

General Secretary P. Symon said in his speech that the Socialist Party of Australia hoped to exchange views with the Workers' Party of Korea over the international situation. We are going to draw on Korea's experiences in socialist construction, he noted.

There are many things in common between the two parties, he said, adding: We know well that the WPK and the Korean people are a genuine party and people striving hard to build socialism.

Referring to the propaganda campaign on the "downfall of socialism" launched by the capitalist class, he stated: our visit to your country will offer us a chance to inform the world people of the absurdity of the campaign.

The SPA supports the reunification of Korea, he noted, and stressed: Without the termination of the U.S. forces' presence in South Korea it is impossible to realize the reunification of Korea.

The SPA will energetically struggle to achieve its aims under whatever difficult condition.

Editorial Stresses Socialist Law-Abiding Ethos

SK3012035189 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2115 GMT 26 Dec 89

[NODONG SINMUN 27 December editorial: "Let Us Thoroughly Establish the Socialist Law-Abiding Ethos To Add Further Luster to the Socialist System of Our Country"]

[Text] Today we significantly greet the 17th anniversary of the announcement of the DPRK socialist Constitution and the Socialist Constitution Day. The announcement of the socialist Constitution was a great event of great significance for our political life and for the implementation of the cause of the socialist and communist cause.

The socialist Constitution of our country produced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the chuche political charter written based on the great chuche idea. Legally settled therein are the great victories and successes our people attained in the revolution and construction and the definitions of the important tasks arising in the implementation of the socialist and communist cause.

With the announcement of the socialist Constitution, our people came to have a powerful legal weapon in vigorously pushing ahead with the chuche revolutionary cause. The justness and vitality of our country's socialist Constitution is clearly manifest in our reality. With the brilliant embodiment of the socialist Constitution to date under the party's leadership, the revolutionary system and order have been established better in the entire society and the three revolutions have been vigorously pushed ahead, further strengthening the country's political and economic might and bringing forth great change in the workers' spiritual and cultural life.

Now our people cherish deep in their hearts the great pride in living with the most superior socialist Constitution, abide by the law with self-awareness and sincerity. Our society, therefore, thoroughly demonstrates the superiority and might of socialist society. All the successes attained in the work of embodying the socialist law are the result of the wise leadership of the party and the leader.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, with deep insight into the importance of the socialist law in the revolution and construction, made the socialist law, the basic law of our state, himself, and based on this, made laws and regulations in various fields, including the law on nursing and educating children, and saw to it that these laws and regulations are thoroughly embodied.

The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, who adds luster to the legal ideology and theory of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, put forth many works, including the work "On Strengthening the Socialist Law-Abiding Life," and has wisely led the work to abide by the socialist law. Therefore, in our country today, the revolutionary law-abiding ethos is thoroughly established in the entire society, and all the state and social lives are regularized and standardized.

Today, we have an honorable task to abide by the socialist law better in conformity with the new demand of the development of the revolution so as to vigorously accelerate the revolution and construction and to more comprehensively demonstrate the superiority of our country's socialist system.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, has noted: All functionaries and working people should bear in mind the party's intent to strengthen the socialist law-abiding life, abide by the laws, regulations, and rules with self-awareness and bring forth a new upturn in the work to firmly establish the state's law and order.

Thoroughly establishing the socialist law-abiding ethos is an important work to solidify and develop our state and social system and more highly uplift its superiority.

The socialist system of our country is the most superior socialist system in which the popular masses are the masters of everything and in which everything serves the popular masses. Our country is highly praised by people of the world as the model country of socialism because all the people are firmly united around the party and the leader as one big harmonious family, all the people live

happily without discrimination, with equality, and free from worries, and the entire society is overflowing with noble and sound ethos. This superiority has settled in the Constitution and all laws and regulations. The better all the people abide by these laws and regulations, the better paradise our country will be turned into for the people to live in, more highly demonstrating the honor and dignity of socialism to the entire world.

Thoroughly establishing the socialist law-abiding ethos is of great significance in smashing the wicked antisocialist maneuvers of the imperialists. It is a stereotypical tactic of the imperialists to create disorder and lawlessness in the socialist countries by infiltrating corrupt ideas and imperialist culture and infusing the wind of change into these countries. Thus, strictly abiding by socialist laws and rules is an important task to check and frustrate various antisocialist maneuvers of the enemy, to firmly safeguard the socialist gains, and to vigorously demonstrate the might and sustaining energy of such gains.

Thoroughly establishing the socialist law-abiding ethos is an essential demand for more vigorously accelerating the socialist construction at present. Today our party put forward magnificent ideas and operation to effect a new great upsurge in the revolution and construction in the nineties based on the great successes attained in the eighties.

In order for all functionaries and workers to effect a great turning point in socialist construction by effectively utilizing the enormous economic potential attained in our country according to the party's plans, they should strictly abide by existing laws, rule and order.

What is important, above all, for all party members and workers in thoroughly establishing the socialist law-abiding ethos is to deeply cherish the political awareness that they themselves are the masters of the state and that the laws and rule are designed for the benefit of the popular masses themselves.

Laws in our country which embodied the chuche idea are a judicial weapon ensuring the independent and creative life of the working masses. All provisions of our laws are aimed at safeguarding the interest and dignity of the working masses. When they properly abide by laws, the socialist life of our people, who enjoy happiness without any anxiety and worry, will come into fuller bloom. Everyone of us is keenly aware of this through our practical experiences.

Therefore, our workers, regarding the act of abiding by the laws and rules as a sacred duty of the citizens of the Republic as demanded by the party, work and live in compliance with the laws and rules as the masters of the law. They assume the act of abiding by the laws not only as a legal duty but also as a moral obligation.

Today our country displays its pride as a well-organized and disciplined nation because all workers thoroughly abide by laws and rules with awareness that the act of abiding by the nation's laws is a sacred work for the party, the revolution, themselves, and future generations.

All party members and workers should, as in the past, be keenly aware that laws of the Republic are designed for the popular masses to hold the position of masters of everything, for ensuring the rights and honor as masters and for encouraging the masses to fulfill their missions as masters. Thus, they should have a correct outlook and position toward laws.

For this, the popular mass-centered legal documents which provided the superior socialist system, which makes everything serve the popular masses to the maximum, and which enacted this system into law should be put forward so that the popular masses always appreciate great benevolence of the party and the leader who tenaciously defend and ensure the desire and interest of the popular masses.

By voluntarily abiding by the laws, the popular masses should organize and carry out all social lives from the state political life to individual life, thoroughly and according to the demand of laws.

It is important for guiding functionaries to show a fine example in establishing the revolutionary law-abiding ethos throughout the country. In the socialist society, whether functionaries or ordinary people, they are equally the masters of laws, and their duties and rights to abide by the laws are the same.

Violation of laws means damaging the rights and dignity of other people who are the masters of laws. Therefore, no one is allowed to commit such an act as violating laws in socialist society. Furthermore, the act of guiding functionaries serves as the mirror for the masses.

All functionaries should be keenly aware that their outlook on law-abiding life will exercise enormous influence over the masses and should always show a fine example in abiding by the law. Thus, they should fulfill their glorious mission as the educator and organizer of the masses in law-abiding life.

What is important in establishing the socialist law-abiding ethos at present is for economic management domain to thoroughly abide by the laws, rule and order.

In order for plants and enterprises to more properly ensure the normalization of production and to effect a great turning point in the nation's economic construction, they should thoroughly abide by laws, rule and management regulations.

If all domains and all units more properly abide by economic management rules and management regulations when the economic scale increases and production ties became complex, one will observe more reserves in production increases and in the conservation of materials.

In order to effect an upsurge in socialist construction by registering an epochal advance in the production increase and conservation struggle, we should direct great strength to intensifying all rules and orders in economic life, including the discipline of carrying out the established plans and cooperative production rule.

What is important in thoroughly abiding by the socialist laws is strengthening law-abiding indoctrination among the workers. All acts of man are to be controlled by his ideology and consciousness. Therefore, whether or not the socialist workers properly carry out law-abiding life depends on their law-abiding spirit. Functionaries of all party organizations and the popular government should always pay great attention to enhancing the law-abiding spirit of the workers and should educate them about the superiority of laws, rules and regulations of the state and of socialist laws in our country in many ways and methods so that they abide by laws with a sense of duty and with the correct traits and attitudes toward laws.

In particular, indoctrination for enhancing the law-abiding spirit should be organized and carried out among the youth. We should make the growing new generations correctly realize that those who properly abide by the laws will become outstanding patriots who are respected and beloved by the people and those who do not abide by the laws will become stragglers and useless figures in our society.

In order to strengthen the law-abiding indoctrination, the law-abiding indoctrination system established by the party should be properly operated and the role of legal guidance personnel should be enhanced.

The legal guidance personnel, cherishing the lofty sense of responsibility as an active protector and propagandist of the laws of the Republic, should more substantively carry out the legal guidance work. What is also important in thoroughly establishing the socialist law-abiding ethos is to enhance the role and functions of organizations of the popular government.

The organizational guidance for establishing the socialist law- abiding ethos is one of the important functions of the popular government. The success in the work of maintaining laws and rules of the state depends on the work of organizations of the popular government.

Each organization of the popular government should thoroughly carry out the work of formulating, interpreting and applying laws strictly based on the position of the party and of the working class and should see to it that all social lives are organized and carried out according to the demand of laws, rules and regulations.

In particular, in addition to strengthening the law-abiding indoctrination among the workers, the work of inspecting, supervising and controlling the execution of laws should be strengthened lest phenomena in which the law is even slightly violated take place.

At the same time, by further enhancing the role and functions of the Law-Abiding Life Guidance Committee, we should see to it that functionaries of all state economic organizations and workers carry out all works thoroughly in accordance with the demand of laws and regulations so that the revolutionary law-abiding spirit be established throughout the entire society.

It is important in thoroughly abiding by the socialist laws to vigorously wage the movement to win the title of exemplary law-abiding county.

Party organizations at all levels and organizations of popular government should substantively carry out the political organizational work to vigorously wage the movement to win the title of exemplary law-abiding county, the justness and vitality of which have been demonstrated in practice, so that all members of society more vigorously carry out this work.

Let us all more highly demonstrate the vitality of the socialist system in our country by upholding the intentions of the party and the leader and thoroughly establishing the socialist law-abiding ethos and effect a new turning point in the socialist construction.

NODONG SINMUN on Indoctrination Work

SK0201004490 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2105 GMT 27 Dec 89

[NODONG SINMUN 28 December editorial: "Let Us Further Intensify Indoctrination in the Revolution and Class Among the Party Members and Workers"]

[Text] With great pride and confidence, all party members and workers are deeply studying the historic classical work "On Further Intensifying Class Education for Party Members" which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song made public about 30 years ago.

On the basis of a scientific analysis of the nature of our revolution and the basic task of our party, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, in his classical work, comprehensively elucidated theoretical and practical problems arising in intensifying class education.

The justness and vitality of the idea and theory in the classical work have been thoroughly clarified through our revolutionary practice.

Today our party is importantly emphasizing the question of intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class among the party members and workers by thoroughly implementing the policy the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song laid down in the classical work.

Herein contains our party's lofty intention of trying to firmly prepare the party members and workers to be genuine chuche-type communist revolutionaries armed with the class consciousness of the working class and to resolutely smash the imperialists' vicious antisocialist maneuvers and powerfully advance the socialist and communist cause.

The party organizations at every level should bear the party's intention deep in mind and concentrate greater efforts on arming the party members and workers with the class consciousness of the working class by intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Only when class education is intensified within the party and among all people can our people be defended from being encroached upon by reactionary ideas and can socialist construction in the Northern half of the republic be successfully accomplished.

Indoctrination in the revolution and class is an important type of education in the chuche idea which is aimed at strengthening the main force of the revolution. Indoctrination in the revolution and class is the work of increasing the invincible revolutionary spirit of loving the party, the class, the fatherland, and the system and of defending and safeguarding them, and of fostering the spirit of an uncompromising struggle against the class enemy.

There is no more important work than intensifying this indoctrination to victoriously advance the revolution and construction and give full play to the superiority of the socialist system in our country where we build socialism in direct confrontation with imperialists.

Strengthening indoctrination in the revolution and class is an important demand for firmly preparing the party members and workers to be genuine chuche-type communist revolutionaries.

The class consciousness of the working class constitutes the core of the communist idea, and the ideological and spiritual traits of communists are shaped and consolidated on the basis of the class consciousness of the working class.

Only when the people are deeply imbued with the class consciousness of being the working class by intensifying education in the revolution and class can they firmly defend the interests of the working class under any circumstances and resolutely fight against imperialists.

The course of socialist and communist construction is a process of making the entire society a working class-oriented society by reforming nature, society, and man in conformity with the demands of the working class, and it entails a serious class struggle.

The conditions of history in which the revolution advances and change in generations takes place demand that the party members and workers further increase their revolutionary consciousness and class consciousness.

As the people's standard of material and cultural living and a (?scientific) and technological level grow higher as a result of progress in socialist construction, the party of the working class should further deepen the work of arming the people with the class consciousness of the working class.

Where this work is not carried out, people's consciousness becomes blank and causes the infiltration of the bourgeois idea and the phenomenon of losing faith in socialism and communism and of failing to carry out the revolution to the end can occur. If class consciousness becomes dull, people come to dislike carrying out the revolution, forget the class enemy, and even fail to clearly distinguish between their side and the enemy side.

As the revolution and construction proceed, therefore, the party of the working class should deepen the work of educating the people in the revolution and class without slackening it even for a moment.

Intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class is a consistent policy which our party has always firmly adhered to and has implemented in the entire course of its leading the revolution and construction.

Our party's firm principle is that we should solidly adhere to indoctrination in the revolution and construction to defend the revolution and powerfully advance along the path of socialism in confrontation with imperialists.

As a result, at an early date our party paid great significance to indoctrination in the revolution and class and has constantly intensified it among the party members and workers.

About 30 years ago, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song already foresaw the inevitability of socialist and communist construction and made public the work on "Further Intensifying Class Education for Party Members," thus seeing to it that the party members and workers are firmly armed with the consciousness of the working class and socialist construction is vigorously pushed ahead.

In particular, our party has presented the revolutionary policy of constantly deepening indoctrination in the revolution and class in conformity with the demands of realities, in which the entire society is imbued with the chuche idea, and has wisely led the indoctrination work.

In his work on 19 February 1974, dear Comrade Kim Chong-il elucidated problems of principle to deepen education in the revolution and class in compliance with the demands of developing realities, thereby making it possible to effect an epochal turn in indoctrination in the revolution and class.

Because our party has consistently adhered to education in the revolution and class and has carried it out, it has been able to display its high dignity and might of being a revolutionary party which builds socialism and our people have become a people who like the revolution and struggle.

Today our party members and workers are staunchly fighting for the victory of the socialist and communist cause with a high sense of class. Our people endlessly hate the imperialists and the class enemy, ardently love

their class and socialist system, and struggle with faith in sure victory and optimism. This is a lofty ideological and spiritual trait of our people.

The bourgeois idea and decadent lifestyle of imperialists cannot be stuck to this revolutionary people nor can anything unsound work for them.

Today the superiority of socialism has been comprehensively displayed; all people have been firmly united around the party and the leader; and the entire society has been filled with sound and revolutionary traits. This is graphic evidence of the wise leadership of our party which has deepened indoctrination in the revolution and class.

On the basis of already attained success and experience, we should constantly deepen education in the revolution and class among the party members and workers.

Intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class at present is important work to strengthen the main force of the revolution and powerfully accelerate socialist construction with the might of the main force.

The main force of the revolution decides everything in the revolution and construction. The main force of the revolution is the united body of the leader, the party, and the masses. The working class plays a key role in uniting the masses around the party and the leader.

Without the leadership of the working class, the general masses cannot achieve single-hearted unity as the main force of the revolution nor can they continue the revolution of realizing their independence.

Indoctrination in the revolution and class is the work of solidly uniting the party members and workers around the party and the leader as a single political force by firmly arming them with the class consciousness of the working class.

Only when indoctrination in the revolution and class is intensified can the leadership role of the working class be increased, the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks be firmly consolidated, and all types of difficulties be tided over with the might of this unity, and cohesion and socialist construction be steadily pushed ahead.

In connection with the fact that the antisocialist maneuvers of imperialists become more vicious, intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class is rising as a more important problem than ever before.

Imperialists are maneuvering in a crafty manner to demolish the people's faith in socialism and collapse socialism from inside.

Only when indoctrination in the revolution and class is constantly intensified without neglecting it under this condition can the people's anti-imperialist revolutionary spirit and class consciousness be constantly increased and can the permeation of the decadent bourgeois idea and life style be smashed.

Historical experience shows that only when the people are firmly armed with the class consciousness of the working class can they resolutely smash any desperate maneuvers of imperialists, firmly defend the revolutionary gains, and fight to the end for the ultimate victory of the revolution with unshaking faith in the socialist cause.

Therefore, we should firmly consolidate our revolutionary ranks politically and ideologically and in terms of class through active indoctrination in the revolution and class.

An important issue in intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class is to firmly arm the party members and workers with the revolutionary world outlook of the working class.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has noted: An important aspect in intensifying education in the revolution and class is, first of all, to have all party members and workers possess a firm working class-oriented viewpoint and a revolutionary world outlook.

Firmly possessing the class viewpoint of the working class and a revolutionary world outlook is an important demand for becoming chuche-type communist revolutionaries.

Only when the people firmly hold the revolutionary stand and viewpoint of the working class can they analyze and judge everything proceeding from the demands and fundamental interests of the general masses; fight against the class enemy, including imperialists, in an uncompromising manner; and faithfully fight along the single road of the revolution indicated by the party and the leader.

The attitude and stance toward the leader are basic in the working class-oriented viewpoint and a revolutionary world outlook. The leader is the supreme personifier of the interests of the working class and the center of the life of a social and political collective.

Those revolutionaries who are politically, ideologically, and comradely combined with the leader and share fate with him will be endlessly faithful to the cause of the working class and regard thinking and acting according to the leader's idea and will as their primary obligation.

Those who think and act only according to the leader's idea and will, and find the genuine reward in life by sharing the sweets and bitters of life with him, can be said to be true revolutionaries who have firmly established a working class-oriented viewpoint and a revolutionary world outlook.

The party organizations at every level should pay primary attention to firmly arming the party members and workers with the idea of the party and the leader and to having them think and act only with it as a basic guideline in establishing a working class-oriented viewpoint and a revolutionary world outlook.

To this end, we should deeply grasp ideas and theories in the great leader's classical works, including the work "On Further Intensifying Class Education for Party Members," and the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il's works, including the work "Let Us Vigorously Advance Along the Path of Socialism and Communism, Upholding Higher the Banner of the Anti-Imperialist Struggle." Also, we should distinguish everything just on the basis of the party's idea and intention and fight according to them under all circumstances.

Thus, the party organizations should have all party members and workers firmly establish a working class oriented viewpoint and revolutionary world outlook through revolutionary practice aimed at realizing the party's idea and intention while firmly trusting the party and the leader as their spiritual pillars.

Clearly perceiving the antipopular and decadent nature of modern imperialism and uncompromisingly fighting against imperialism and the exploiting system are important tasks of indoctrination in the revolution and class.

However hard the imperialists and their patronized propaganda means may try to embellish capitalism, the antipopular and decadent nature of capitalism can never be hidden nor can they escape from the road along which they are dashing toward their ruin.

A crippled material life, a poor spiritual and cultural life, and a reactionary political life are basic characteristics of a capitalist society which show the antipopular and decadent nature of modern imperialism.

The party organizations at every level should make the party members and workers clearly perceive the intrinsic nature of the exploiting system and an extremely reactionary capitalist society contradictory to the nature of social human beings. Thus, the party members and workers should clearly recognize the decadent nature of capitalism and the inferiority of bourgeois democracy and fight against them in an uncompromising manner.

The imperialists and the class enemy are infinitely cunning and never do the working class any good.

We should endlessly hate the exploiting system and class with a high pride in class and a sense of superiority as those who carry out the revolution. Also, we should pioneer our destinies for ourselves without any delusion of imperialism. Furthermore, we should resolutely defend and safeguard the socialist gains with a high pride and confidence in the achievements and creations we have attained with blood and sweat in the course of advancing along the path of socialism.

The struggle against imperialism is inconceivable separated from the struggle against its ideological and cultural infiltration.

Today the maneuvers of the imperialists against socialism are directed largely at ideologically disarming the general masses by infiltrating them with the bourgeois idea, culture, and living mode.

Historical experience shows that where the venom of the bourgeois idea and culture permeates, the people's revolutionary consciousness and class consciousness are paralyzed, the people are ideologically deteriorated, and finally even the revolutionary gains are in jeopardy.

The struggle to smash the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration is precisely a serious class struggle in the ideological field.

We should absolutely prevent the permeation of the bourgeois idea and culture which encroach upon the people's ideological and spiritual world.

All party members and workers should counter the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration with revolutionary vigilance and resolutely smash the enemy's maneuvers with a high sense of political and ideological superiority.

All party members and workers should deeply recognize the superiority of our country's socialist system and actively struggle to defend, safeguard, consolidate, and develop the socialist system.

The class consciousness of the working class is linked not only to the spirit of an uncompromising struggle against the enemy but also to the ardent love of our class and system. The revolutionaries should defend and safeguard the socialist system and revolutionary gains, which they have attained with blood and sweat, with a high pride and confidence in them.

Today the superiority of socialism has been given full play in our country and our fatherland has demonstrated its pride in being a model socialist country.

All people are united as one around the party and the leader on the basis of revolutionary fidelity and comradeship, and struggle together, helping and leading each other on the principle of "one for all and all for one." This shows the intrinsic superiority of our socialist system.

The great pride of our society, which is beyond imagination in a capitalist society, lies in all people enjoying a sound material life, a rich ideological and cultural life, and an independent political life.

All party members and worker should always keep in mind their endless pride and confidence in living and carrying out the revolution under the chuche socialist system, which was established by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and has been made to shine by the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, and resolutely defend, consolidate, and develop our country's socialist system.

Along with this, they cherish an endless love of their socialist fatherland, take good care of their working sites, villages, and streets, discharge the assigned revolutionary tasks better, and strengthen the struggle to increase production and save more.

All party members and workers should vigorously accelerate the grand campaign of the socialist march by giving full play to the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude and facilitate the completion of major projects, including the 2d-stage construction of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex. Thus, they should firmly defend and safeguard the socialist (?banner) and further demonstrate the decisive superiority of socialism through a practical struggle.

Having the party members and workers possess faith in certain victory and revolutionary optimism is an important task in indoctrination in the revolution and class.

Capitalism is to be ruined and socialism is to win victory. This is the law of the development of history. There cannot be any agitation and disappointment to those with faith in sure victory and revolutionary optimism. They staunchly fight with greater faith as imperialists more desperately run wild.

The desperate maneuvers of imperialists are not an expression of their powerfulness, but a manifestation of their weakness.

The party organizations at every level should make the party members and workers clearly recognize the nature of modern imperialism, which makes desperate efforts while bravadoing and blustering with their doom approaching, and have confidence in its inevitable ruin.

In particular, the party organizations should tell the party members and workers of the experience and lesson of our revolution, which has attained victory while breaking through the storms of the grim revolution, and make them fight staunchly toward the future of communism with the faith that only when they advance in firm unity around the party and the leader there can be nothing that they cannot do and they can always be victorious.

Indoctrination in the revolution and class should be further intensified among youths and children who have not undergone exploitation, oppression, and the trials of the revolutionary struggle.

The socialist and communist cause is a protracted cause which continues generation after generation. To enable the youths and children, successors to the revolution, to consummate the socialist and communist cause by inheriting the pure spirit of the revolutionary martyrs, indoctrination in the revolution and class must be intensified.

Unless the work of imbuing those in the new generation with revolutionary consciousness so a class consciousness is intensified, they will indulge in today's happy life and thus, only desire to live in comfort. Thus, they cannot increase resolve to carry out the revolution and their fighting spirit.

By intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class, we should see to it that youths and children are clearly aware that the new socialist life they enjoy today has been provided at the price of blood and sweat, and that they live and work in a revolutionary manner with a sound ideological consciousness without ever being tainted with any type of unsound idea and way. Thus, we should see to it that like the youths of the previous generation, they uphold the leadership of the party and the leader with loyalty and responsibly discharge the historic task assigned to their generation.

Indoctrination in the revolution and class should be planned and substantially carried out in various forms and by many methods.

The party organizations should carry out indoctrination in the revolution and class in combination with the basic principle of the chuche idea, thereby helping the party members and workers know the principle of the revolution and the law of the class struggle well, and devote themselves to fighting for the revolutionary cause to realize the independence of the popular masses.

By combining indoctrination in the revolution and class with education in the revolutionary tradition, the party organizations should help the party members and workers actively follow the invincible fighting spirit and staunch mettle of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, who said that they must defeat the enemy at any cost.

With vivid historical facts, we should conduct realistic indoctrination in the history of aggression against Korea by the U.S. and Japanese imperialists, their atrocities, and the heinous exploiting nature of landlords and capitalists.

Along with this, we should constantly deepen the work of intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class among the party members and workers through revolutionary publications and literary and art works.

Today the ideological and spiritual state of our party members and workers is very good. All party members and workers are overflowing with firm resolve to consummate the socialist and communist cause under the leadership of the party while utterly entrusting the party and the leader with their destinies.

Our struggle for socialism is optimistic, and the future of our revolution is promising.

All party organizations and functionaries should thoroughly implement the party's intention of intensifying indoctrination in the revolution and class among the party members and workers, thus further strengthening the main force of our revolution and brilliantly consummating the socialist and communist cause under the banner of chuche.

South Korea

No Tae-u on End to Discussions of Fifth Republic

SK0301124890 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text of President No Tae-u's statement on 3 Jan, declaring termination of leftovers of the Fifth Republic—recorded]

[Text] Three days ago, on 31 December, with the people, I watched with mixed emotions as former President Chon Tu-hwan testified before the National Assembly on questions about the Fifth Republic.

Having a former president who finished his presidency peacefully stand for testimony before the National Assembly has no precedent in any democratic country, except under revolutionary circumstances. Up to his testimony, there have been many ordeals as president.

I felt more heartbreak at our circumstances, in which we have been forced to undergo division and difficulties in our constitutional history and in which in 40 years we have had no former presidents who were respected by the people when they finished their presidencies .

Even on the last day of the 1980's, we were forced to suffer the pain of liquidating the leftovers of the last period. Now, resolved to inaugurate an undistorted and new democratic history, we greet the new year of 1990.

The questions concerning the Fifth Republic were the biggest issues in the presidential election in 1987. These issues have already been judged thorough elections by the people. In the meantime, due to conflicts and confrontations over past problems, the people's sacrifice has also been great.

At last, an agreement between ruling and opposition parties to terminate these past questions was reached on 15 December 1989. The solemn promise made by me and the three opposition parties' presidents was to wholly terminate the questions concerning the past period before the end of 1989 and was to lead politics which can give hope to the people in the 1990's, if the former president's testimony before the National Assembly and the resignation of lawmaker Chong Ho-yong and Mr. Yi Hui-sung from their public posts were realized.

What on earth more can we demand of the former president, who said he would take responsibility for all questions committed under the Fifth Republic?

As the president, I take full responsibility for affairs of state, and thus I will assume all problems and I, here, will clearly end the disputes concerning the past periods, whatever anyone says.

No one can ever again repeat injustices and wrongdoings such as those of the past period. On the basis of this severe lesson, we should create a new history. This is the precise way to genuinely liquidate the past mistakes.

I ask the people for your understanding and cooperation.

Thank you.

Further on No's Statement

SK0301124690 Seoul YONHAP in English 1233 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u declared Wednesday the issue of liquidating the "bad legacies" of former President Chon Tu-hwan's government was laid to rest with the ex-president's testimony at the parliamentary hearing on Dec. 31.

In a special statement televised to the nation Wednesday evening, No vowed to take all responsibility regarding the controversy which has plagued the nation for nearly two years to prevent the controversy from surfacing again.

"As a president responsible for all the state affairs, now I will shoulder all the burden and put an end to the dispute over the past here definitely," said the president.

"If there is still anything left in liquidating things of the past, it should be handed over to the history," said No, successor to Chon who had to take the witness stand at the parliamentary hearing for what he had done during his seven-year iron-fisted rule.

No's statement was apparently designed to head off the recurrence of the question in the new year since most people across the nation were disappointed with the allegedly evasive and elusive attitude of the former president at the hearing.

"I know well there are many people who were dissatisfied with the testimony of the former president but we can not maintain a democracy without tolerance and reconciliation," said No.

Despite prior agreement between the ruling and opposition camps, Chon's testimony was often interrupted by opposition lawmakers who outcried over Chon's insincerity and Chon returned to the remote buddhist temple where he had stayed on a self-imposed exile since November 1987.

No reminded of the agreement which he and opposition leaders had reached and said, "The past issue should be laid to rest now since the testimony was made along with the resignation of Rep. Chong Ho-yong and Yi Hui-song, former martial law commander at the time of 1980 Kwangju uprising, from the public posts."

No also pledged to push ahead with other agreements reached during the political summit talks on Dec. 15, including the compensation for the victims of the 1980 Kwangju uprising and the brutal suppression and the local autonomy elections.

"We should tackle the economic and other problems facing the nation and throw off the yoke of past issues which have obsessed us for two years," said the president.

No said no one would repeat the past wrongdoings and this would be a true liquidation of the past vestiges and urged politicians to make efforts so that the politics can contribute to the realization of what people are longing for and the opening of the prosperity and the reunification of the peninsula.

No on Opening 'New Era'

SK0301084790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0830 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u Wednesday called on the people to refrain from engaging in disputes over the past in consideration of the "external and internal situations and historic circumstances" the nation is facing.

Apparently referring to the public ire over former President Chon Tu-hwan's failure to meet the opposition demand to reveal the truth behind his past wrongdoings, No said, "Even though the liquidation issue leaves much to be desired, we should finish disputes over past issues at this point."

No was addressing 142 government, National Assembly, judiciary, ruling party and military officials in a new year greeting at the presidential office.

"Now is the time to devote our all energy to the national task of promoting democracy, prosperity and reunification," the president said.

The government must settle various problems directly related to the quality of life such as economic, traffic, environmental and education difficulties, No said.

"We should open the new era of macro-politics, responding to the global situation and issues instead of aiming at popularity, agitation and partisan interests," he said.

Further Reportage on Reaction to Chon Testimony

Parties Disagree on Testimony

SK0101032490 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 1 Jan 90 p 2

[From the "Press Pocket" column: "Dissatisfaction"]

[Text] Appraisals of Chon's testimony by the ruling and opposition camps differ.
Rep. Choe Chae-uk of the ruling Democratic Justice Party said it is nonsensical for the opposition camp to dismiss Chon's testimony as insincere just because it does not satisfy them.
He said he could read in it how sorry Chon feels for having brought about the current controversy over his rule.
Kim Kil-hong from the same party said, "From the start it was impossible to get everything cleared up from Chon's testimony."
Meanwhile, officers at the Party for Peace and Democracy said they had been swamped by angry phone calls, asking if this was what the aim of the testimony was.
Callers also took issue with Kim Tae-chung taking a seat in the gallery at the hearing site.

'Insincere' Testimony Angers Viewers

SK0101040890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Jan 90 p 2

[By Staff Reporter Sim Yong-su]

[Text] Ex-President Chon Tu-hwan's hope that his history-making testimony yesterday would help put to rest controversy over his rule by the year-end appeared to go amiss in view of angry popular response to his first few hours of testimony.
Many people worry that his "insincere" testimony and high-handed attitude have aggravated popular opinion against him and will fuel new controversy over his Fifth Republic.
While he was testifying, offices of news media and political parties were flooded with telephone calls from citizens protesting what they called "false testimony."
Some callers to the party offices were quoted as saying in angry voice, "If you can not make Chon tell the truth, stop it (the hearing) immediately. We do not want to hear further lies."
Throughout testimony, Chon denied charges against him or defended what he did on his rise to power and while in office, including the controversial Dec. 12, 1979, incident and the Kwangju incident.
What further angered the people was his high-handed attitude throughout the testimony which was taped and broadcast nationwide with a 30 minute to one hour time delay.
Some angry citizens said that Chon has not changed at all from before going into exile at a remote Buddhist temple after surrendering all his wealth to the state to atone for his wrongdoings during his seven years of notorious rule.
Chairman of the parliamentary hearing repeatedly scolded Chon for his unfaithful testimony, but the ex-President paid little heed and continued to monotonously read his prepared text.
When some opposition lawmakers shouted at him, "Stop lying and tell the truth," Chon angrily even stared back at them for a while.
The packed crowd in the gallery now and then joined the opposition lawmakers in jeering at Chon as he showed little change in his attitude.
Responding to the simmering popular outcry at Chon's parliamentary hearing, opposition parties convened an emergency caucus during a recess in the afternoon to discuss steps to make Chon testify faithfully.
The main opposition Party for Peace and Democracy lawmakers decided to boycott the hearing or declare the hearing invalid if Chon continues his evasive testimony.

At the meeting, the party president Kim Tae-chung, denouncing Chon's testimony as full of lies, demanded that party lawmakers by any means stop Chon from making false testimony.

The second main opposition Reunification Democratic Party rejected Chon's testimony as an "outright insult to the people."

But the ruling Democratic Justice Party founded by Chon nine years ago to pave the way for his seizure of power defended Chon's testimony as "truthful and honest, even when the party office was flooded with citizens' calls protesting Chon's "false testimony."

Chon seemed to have thought that his taking the witness stand, regardless of the truth of his testimony, would put an end to all controversy over his infamous rule.

Popular disappointment at his testimony was reflected by the unexpectedly low TV viewing rate.

At the beginning of his testimony, the viewing rate reached a high of over 70 percent but it plummetted to 40 percent in the afternoon after his testimony was interrupted several times in the afternoon by shouting matches between opposition lawmakers and ruling party lawmakers loyal to Chon.

Opposition anger reached its peak when Chon began to testify on the sensitive Kwangju incident, the bloody control by paratroopers of civilian street protests in Kwangju in May of 1980 four months before Chon took office.

Chon defended the military's firing at the civilians as "an act of self-defense," drawing stormy protests from the opposition lawmakers.

An opposition lawmaker Yi Chol-yong dashed toward Chon and hurled abusive words at him, thrusting his hand at Chon's face, which led to a brawl between ruling party lawmakers blocking Yi and opposition lawmakers supporting Yi.

On other key sensitive issues such as President No Tae-u's June 29, 1987 democratic reforms declaration and his use of political funds, Chon raised more controversy rather than removing popular suspicions.

On the democratic reforms declaration, Chon evaded a straightforward reply to an opposition lawmaker's question asking if it was his work as one of his aides claimed earlier this year.

Chon replied "it is not important how it happened but what is important at the moment is whether it was put into action well. I will tell the truth later when telling the truth will not cause political controversy."

On the use of political funds, he again ambiguously replied, "Any ruler in the world does not reveal how he spent his political funds after leaving office."

Chon's day-long testimony seemed to create new controversy.

It has not solved the problem and is expected to break the hopes of Chon and his predecessor No that his taking the witness stand alone would end the controvery over Chon's Fifth Republic questions, before the new year.

Public Disappointment at Testimony

SK0101040390 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Jan 90 p 3

[Text] People were glued to television sets again yesterday as former President Chon Tu-hwan stood at the National Assembly to testify on the seven years of his authoritarian rule.

Many people appear to have been disappointed over his testimony which they said was "insincere."

The nationally-televised testimony, coupled with the beginning of the new year holidays, left streets in major cities virtually deserted.

Traffic in Seoul and other large cities was light and fewer people were seen moving in and around the cities.

As the two national television networks began showing Chon's taped testimony around 11 a.m., passers-by gathered at streetside stores as well as railroad stations and expressbus terminals.

At Kangnam Expressbus Terminal in southern Seoul, people traveling to their hometowns swarmed to TV sets in its lobby even before the disgraced former leader appeared on the screen.

The scene was similar at Seoul Station, where people waiting for trains did not take their eyes off television sets.

Most coffee shops and restaurants kept their TV sets turned on so customers would not miss one moment of the first-ever parliamentary testimony by a former president.

Some taxi drivers were seen pulling up at the roadside to watch TV in coffee shops.

Merchants in Chongnyangni and other marketplaces, who were busy cashing in on a buying spree for the three-day holiday, expressed displeasure with the timing of the testimony.

Senior officials at government agencies appeared at their offices in the morning like normal weekdays and exchanged opinions while watching television.

Most bureau directors at the Ministry of Home Affairs attentively set their eyes on TV screens at Minister Kim Tae-ho went to the National Assembly to seek Chon testify first-hand.

In Kwangju, streets were deserted as ex-President Chon gave testimony.

Some shops in such bustling streets as Chungjangrio and Kumnamro were closed.

Many Kwangju citizens said they wanted Chon to testify truthfully about the bloody military suppression of the 1980 Kwangju civil uprising.

But most residents of the city which experienced a popular uprising in May 1980 expressed anger and dissatisfaction that Chon's testimony was an insulting let-down.

People in other areas also aired disappointment.

Chong Im-sop, a 48-year-old company official in Taegu, said Chon's testimony was supposed to reveal "the truth" and leave a lesson in history but ended up blurring or covering up the truth. Anyway, he said he wishes for an end to the Fifth Republic problem and a positive surge toward the future.

Chong Tong-sik, 32, an employee of a securities firm, said he felt that politicians "conspired to deceive" the public. Chon was insincere in his answers, trying to make excuses for himself, he said, and there is no one who will believe the controversies have been resolved.

Han Wan-sang, a dissident professor at Seoul National University, said he was also disappointed. Chon is apparently unwilling to repent for his wrongdoings, Han said.

"His testimony rather raised more doubts by consistently defending himself," Han said.

Song Kuk-chan, 26, a philosophy senior at Seoul National University, said "The former President seems to feel no responsibility for mismanagement of the nation during his seven-year rule. But I hope that his testimony will help resolve the bad legacies of the past although I was somewhat disappointed."

Further on Aftermath of Hearing

SK0301092090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0849 GMT 3 Jan 90

[By Hong Sang-pyo]

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—Remnants of the government of former President Chon Tu-hwan were pronounced liquidated with Chon's appearance before the National Assembly on the last day of the year, but calls for uncovering the truth continue and there remains the question of how history will define the man and his era.

Protocol was thrown to the winds as Chon, in his first public appearance since he fled into rural exile as atonement for his wrongs, was shouted down as he testified on his rise to power and seven years of misrule and was accused of being evasive and unrepentant.

His testimony at a hearing of two Assembly special panels on Sunday was arranged as the final step in the liquidation of his rule, a process that had hobbled Korean politics for two years.

But the long-awaited testimony was repeatedly interrupted by ugly shouting matches between panelists from the ruling and opposition parties and then cut short in a melee triggered by charges that Chon was giving false and insincere testimony.

When the noise finally drove Chon out of the chamber 14 hours after he began to testify, he had been on the witness stand less than two hours and the other 12 had been largely dedicated to bickering and brawling between lawmakers.

The hearing automatically closed at midnight, but by then Chon was long gone and only opposition firebrands remained.

Chon read the remainder of his written testimony to the press in a hurriedly arranged news conference and then retreated to the calm of the remote Buddhist temple where he and his wife have lived for the past 13 months.

Chon, who ruled with an iron hand from September 1980 to February 1988, glossed over the wrongs, abuse of power and human rights violations that stained this turbulent period of Korean history, and instead tried to defend what he did while in office.

Opposition lawmakers shouted insults and accused him of lying, while public's response was mainly unbridled anger.

But when the furor died down, all the parties except Kim Tae-chung's made it plain Wednesday that they will not dispute Chon's testimony as agreed in a deal between President No Tae-u and the three opposition leaders.

The Democratic Justice Party, which was founded by Chon in 1981 and is now headed by No, said it regretted the testimony was cut short and blamed the opposition parties. It reaffirmed that the testimony, unprecedented in Korea's constitutional history, was the final touch to liquidation and it would not let the issue enter the new decade.

Though it accused Chon of giving evasive and false testimony, Kim Yong-sam's Reunification Democratic Party said it was better not to sue Chon, who it claims committed terrible crimes before and after he rose to power, on such a trivial charge as perjury.

Kim Chong-pil's New Democratic Republican Party said it was to be regretted that Chon failed to win public sympathy and understanding, but said further conflict over liquidation could cause confusion and undermine political stability.

Kim Tae-chung, who was sentenced to death under Chon in 1980 for sedition, vowed to sue Chon for perjury and contempt of the National Assembly, an indication that his Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] may continue its sporadic political offensive against the No government over liquidation.

"I cannot but express my indignation over Chon's testimony, which was full of lies and arrogance and was designed to cover up the truth in defiance of people's expectations," the PPD head said.

Kim, indicating he will not raise the issue after February however, said, "I would like to bring an end to liquidation after such undemocratic laws as the National Security law and the Law on the Agency for National Security Planning have been abolished or revised at a special Assembly session scheduled in February."

In this context, it is unlikely that the liquidation issue will remain a subject of political strife for long, analysts said.

This outlook is based on growing pressure on politicians from the people—who despite their anger over Chon's testimony are critical of the ruling and opposition parties

for their chronic counterproductive disputes over problems of the past—to make a new start, abandoning partisan interests for stability and the people's interests, the analysts said.

More than 40 of Chon's high-ranking officials, family members and relatives were convicted of power abuse, corruption and influence peddling after No took office pledging to liquidate the negative legacies of his predecessor's era and move toward democratization.

Dissident and radical student groups, a small but tough minority calling for reform and democracy, dismissed the No-Kims accord on liquidation as political bargaining and called for Chon's arrest and punishment, promising more disputes over liquidation.

Chon is expected to stay at Paektam-sa temple in the eastern mountains for the time being, probably longer than the 13 months he has stayed so far, if the situation worsens, though he has expressed a hope to move to Seoul, the analysts said.

The former president, yielding to public ire over his authoritarian rule, went into the rural exile after apologizing to the people for misdeeds and surrendering his wealth of 20 billion won (30 million U.S. dollars) to the state on Nov. 23, 1988.

His two brothers are still in jail, convicted of embezzlement and influence-peddling while the fiery-tempered retired general was in office.

Companies Request Live Broadcast

SK2912030289 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] The state-run Korea Broadcasting System [KBS] yesterday asked for parliamentary permission of a live TV hookup of the testimony by former president Chon Tu-hwan Sunday.

The KBS made the request in letters sent by KBS president So Yong-hun to Hwang Myong-su and Mun Tong-hwan, chairmen of the National Assembly ad hoc committees investigating the Chon-era misdeeds and the 1980-military suppression of the Kwangju uprising.

The Munwha Broadcasting Corporation [MBC] Wednesday mailed similar letters to the House.

As the KBS and MBC have extended requests for a live TV broadcast of Chon's testimony, opposition parties are pushing for the live telecasting.

The rival camps had agreed to record Chon's testimony on videotape for broadcasting later. They were going to leave the decision on when to show the replay of the videotaped testimony session to the broadcasting media.

Yi Hui-song Relieved of Post by President No

SK3112012489 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 31 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u yesterday relieved Yi Hui-song of his post as chairman of the state-run Korea Housing Corp. in compliance with his compromise with opposition leaders on the liquidation of the legacy of the previous Chon Tu-hwan government.

Year-End Statements, Resignations Reviewed

SK3112012889 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 31 Dec 89 p 8

[Editorial: "Toward Political Stability"]

[Text] The final phase of the local political scene of the passing year in general and the ruling Democratic Justice Party [DJP] in particular have been convulsed over the resignation of Pak Chun-kyu, chairman of the DJP, in the wake of his untimely and misleading remarks on the prospect of realigning Korea's party politics.

The resignation of Rep. Chong Ho-yong in answer to persistent opposition accusations of his allegedly critical role in the unfortunate Kwangju incident came about this week as had been anticipated. Chong's departure is supposed to help the partisan polemics over cleaning the slate of old politics to subside, combined with the testimony of ex-President Chon Tu-hwan slated at the National Assembly today.

Meanwhile, the controversial statement of Pak provided fresh fuel for disputes in the ranks of the ruling party that stands in need of greater internal cohesiveness and strong leadership.

The DJP leader in a press interview suggested the possibility of promoting realignment of the political arena in favor of a two-party system, referring to some inadequacy and inefficiency of the existing four-party arrangement.

The senior lawmaker had also hinted that President No Tae-u could detach himself from the ruling party for the sake of achieving a free hand in taking dynamic political initiatives. His other utterances were construed to mean that the ruling party might give up its present structure to pave the way for a political realignment.

Pak raised these points at an inappropriate time when his party required firm unity and harmony to deal with the opposition camp and the entire political community is in for a lull after a frenzied year regarding the legacies of the Fifth Republic.

But he apparently gave his personal opinion and took the blame for impropriety by resigning from the party post. Besides, it appears that they read between the lines of his statement above measure, reading too many meanings into Pak's innuendoes. Pak's remarks were far from precise or well organized.

The unnecessary and untimely stir created by Pak does not deserve to be prolonged or overblown to harm the integrity and political maneuverability of the ruling party and its leadership. It should not adversely affect other parties and the effort to close the case against the Fifth Republic administration by hearing from Chon.

The question of a political realignment might be explored from a long-term perspective through steady review of the past experience and on the basis of an enlightened outlook on the nation's future.

Diplomatic, Cabinet Appointments Announced

SK2912072489 Seoul YONHAP in English 0700 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Yu Chong-ha, ambassador to the European community, was named vice foreign minister Friday, replacing Sin Tong-won, who has been chosen ambassador to West Germany.

Yi Ki-chu, ambassador to Ireland, was appointed assistant foreign minister for economic affairs, succeeding Hong Sun-yong, who was selected to head the Korean embassy in Malaysia.

Yu, 53, has spent more than 20 years in various foreign ministry posts, including ambassador to Sudan and Belgium.

Yi, 53, has been a career diplomat since 1972, serving in several posts that included minister in the Korean embassy in Japan before being named ambassador to Ireland in 1987.

The government also named Choe Song-hong to be consul-general in Montreal, Canada, and Yi Tong-sun, consul-general in Agana, Guam, to be consul-general in Niigata, Japan, effective Saturday.

It appointed Kim Chung-ki as director-general of the foreign ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau.

Other appointments effective Saturday include:—Kim Sam-hun to be director-general of the American Affairs Bureau—Na Won-chan to be director-general of the European Affairs Bureau—Sin Sung-o to be director-general of the Information and Cultural Affairs Bureau—Chong Ui-yong to be public information officer—Min Hyong-ki, Sin Tu-pyong, Yi Chae-chun, Sung Chae-sang and Chang Hun to serve in the foreign ministry.

No Tae-u News Conference To View 1990 Policy

SK0301072890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0629 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 3 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u will have his first news conference of the year on Jan. 9 to make public his ideas on how to chart South Korea's course for the year and beyond, the presidential office said Wednesday.

No will ask the people for their cooperation in steering the ship of state, explaining his policy on setting the foundation for reunification of the Korean peninsula and on joining the group of industrialized nations, a presidential spokesman said.

Though Korea has weathered a storm, there is more rough sailing ahead, and so No will embark on his third year in presidency by sounding a warning that this is the eleventh hour for Korea in its efforts to establish democracy and salvage its economy.

The president will ask the people to pull together to make a fresh start, stressing that the previous government's bad legacies, a block to national development, were removed with the testimony of former president Chun Tu-hwan in the National Assembly on Dec. 31.

News Conference Set for 10 Jan

SK0401070290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0647 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 4 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u will hold his first news conference of the year on Jan. 10, presidential spokesman Yi Su-chong said Thursday. It was reported Wednesday that No will meet the press on Jan. 9.

Separate meetings between No and the three opposition leaders—Kim Tae-chung, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil—will be sought after the news conference, Yi said.

No's New Year Talk Predicts S-N Breakthrough

SK0101042190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] President No Tae-u predicted a breakthrough in South-North Korean relations during the 1990s that will help national reunification.

In his New Year's message to the nation, President No said he will endeavor to speed the opening of North Korea through the government's Northern diplomacy.

"We will actively pursue the policy of accommodating the North as part of a single national community," No said.

He said the radiant forces of the nation's freedom and prosperity will induce North Korea to step forward onto the path of national integration.

"It is difficult to imagine that the North alone will be able to stick to its rigid isolationist system forever in such a changing world," he said, adding that it is only a matter of time until changes are seen in the North.

"We will be sufficiently prepared to actively deal with any change on the part of North Korea," No said.

On domestic politics, the President said that the controversy over the past era should be ended.

"In any democratic country that has adopted the separation of the three branches of government, there is no precedent of a former president having testified before the legislature about what he did while he was in office," No said.

Now that the former President who had peacefully turned the reins of government over to a legitimate successor has appeared before the National Assembly, clarified old problems and apologized for wrongs committed in the past, this issue of the bygone era must now be clearly wound up, he said.

"Now we should turn over eyes to the wide world and look ahead to the future and we should pool our determination to ensure national development and accomplish national tasks," No said.

He also said: "In order to build a firm foundation for our advance into the ranks of the developed countries, we will develop a land of hope in which the aspirations of even those who have in the past been left out of the economic mainstream will be met."

Our wish for a democratic and prosperous society will also be met without fail, if everyone does his best at his workplace and otherwise discharges his duties in all his capacities, he said.

In order to ensure that the 21st century, which is now only a decade away, will be a century of glory for the Republic, we must in the new year begin an energetic march forward with renewed determination, No said.

The 1980s which brought the nation a mixture of darkness and light, of ordeals and achievement, has just become an old chapter of history. We must build further on the precious and rewarding experiences of the 1980s—the illustrious economic development, the glory of the Seoul Olympics and the triumph of democracy achieved against all odds, he said.

If we once again exert our inherent outstanding capabilities with which we rose from the ruins of war and have achieved illustrious development, we will be able to meet all our long-standing aspirations, making the 1990s a decade of fruition, he said.

On this new morning of the new year, let us all renew our determination to march forward into the 21st century, into a brighter future, with our sights raised high, he added.

North Korea Urged To Become Open Society

SK3012052389 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 29 Dec 89 p 2

[Editorial: "North Korea, Do Not Turn a Blind Eye to a Major Trend"]

[Text] The government prepared a "draft for a North-South passage agreement," which will allow North Korean people to visit South Korea and allow South Korean people to visit North Korea; it is examining a plan for North-South economic cooperation; it is planning to allow people to listen to North Korean radio; and it has assumed a positive attitude toward North Korea in other matters. This is considered timely and appropriate.

Successive developments in Eastern Europe and, in particular, the radical change which took place in Romania this past week taught us that North Korean society must gradually open up and that North and South Korea must achieve peaceful coexistence and, ultimately, achieve reunification by way of exchange and cooperation. This has also been our fundamental stand.

North Korea, running counter to an international trend of reform and detente, has further isolated itself from the international community. However, on its own, it must instead make an effort to gradually open up. The fact that the new Romania, which North Korea itself recognized, declared its "break from communism" will be a serious lesson to North Korea.

On learning that, as a first follow-up measure for the Korean national community reunification proposal, which it announced last September, the government prepared a "draft for a North-South passage pact," we would like to advise the government that it must study realistic formulas, rather than rather idealistic ones. This is because whether or not North Korea will accept our formulas is a key no matter how good or idealistic they may be.

We suffered failures in 1982, for example. At that time, as a follow-up measure for the proposal for national reconciliation and democratic reunification, the government proposed to North Korea that 20 pilot projects be carried out. The 20 pilot projects include reopening the Seoul-Pyongyang road and railway line, allowing people in the North to freely listen to South Korean radios and allowing South Korean people to freely listen to North Korean radios, joint fishing ventures, and opening Inchon and Nampo ports to allow North Korean ships to call at Inchon and to allow South Korean ships to call at Nampo. However, North Korea rejected all of the projects.

North Korea rejected them because if it accepts our proposal and signs an agreement with South Korea to carry out these projects, this consequently means that it recognizes South Korea, which it has rejected.

It is questionable whether or not North Korea accepts our proposal for a passage pact under circumstances in which North Korea has not recognized South Korea. It is necessary for the government to formulate positive policies irrespective of whether or not these policies are realistic. This is because a foundation for future exchange must be built in advance.

The government's "draft for a passage pact" seems to have been patterned after the East-West German model. We think that we must prepare a more creative plan that suits the reality of North and South Korea, which is different from that of East and West Germany, which have promoted exchange and economic cooperation for a long time. A good example is shown in a procedure for exchanging delegates to Red Cross talks and home-visiting groups. It was agreed that when the delegates, reporters, and suite members of one side enter the other side's area, they act in the other side's area under the escort of the other side and abide by the other side's regulations.

It is good to let as many separated family members and overseas compatriots as possible visit North Korea in an effort to let open society be known there at the same time when we are trying to sign a North-South Passage Agreement. It is also good to allow people to listen to Pyongyang radios. It is necessary to revise laws to this end.

What is important is to start with visible exchange and gradually promoting trust and homogeneity after transcending differences in idea and system.

We stress that the government must assume a forward-looking attitude toward North Korea, and again urge North Korea to come to an open society.

Kim Il-song Urged To Listen to Changes

SK2912121289 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 26 Dec 89

[Editorial: "A Letter to Kim Il-song in North Korea"]

[Text] "President" Kim Il-song! We are closing out the year of 1989. This also means that we are seeing out the eighties. We feel sorry to close out another year once again with pitiful wishes of our 70 million people. Can the movement of the wheel of history be felt while the scars continue to ache? We believe that the president surely can feel this movement.

We believe that you have always known the idiom, "Plug one's ear while stealing a bell," recorded in the book of "Bu Gou Lun" written by "Lu Shi Chun Chiu." We know this idiom has been used for pointing out a fault—that when we ourselves did not hear something, we presume that other people did not hear it either. I prudently refer to this saying because I think that you happen to turn your deaf ear to the winds of opening and reform sweeping across the East Bloc.

Even though you block your ears, it is inevitable that a bell can be heard by others. Can it not? Thus, we block our own ears and assume that other people do not hear the bell, either. This is not different from the fact that we try to cover the sky with our hands. Do you happen to think that a bell cannot be heard because North Korea is far away from East Europe, and if efforts to propagandize and defend a system are made? There are no secrets in the world. We think it is proper for you to prudently contemplate the blowing wind which originated from your main stronghold.

We think it is wrong to look down on the people. If you think you are safe, because approximately 40 years have passed without big difficulties, this is a mistake. Ceausescu in Romania might have had the same thought as you; but, look! His 24-year fortress collapsed just 5 days after the Romanian people sprang up against him. Even though the rising of the people seems powerless, the people's power in fact has the gretest explosive power. Thus, the old wise philosopher's words that "The voice of the people is the voice of God," has a persuasive power even though the times have changed. Therefore, we think those in ruling power should bear this saying in mind.

You know what a spring is. And, you surely know what the nature of a spring is. A spring gets coiled up when pressure is applied. It is also true that when more pressure is applied, the tighter it gets coiled. However, it is an unchangeable truth that the repelling power is in proportion to the power given to coils of the spring. The Romanian incident proves this fact once again. Only a few days ago, Ceausescu duly made overseas trips while talking about sticking to "system defending" even in the face of incidents sweeping across East Europe. This means that he had been ignorant of the voice of the people. As a result, he met his downfall.

In view of nationalism, idolatry, dictatorship, and closed doors, you are very similar to Ceausescu. Thus, we think that you have gotten yet another shock different from the opening and reform sweeping across the East Bloc countries. We worry about this. That is to say, the changes in other East European countries are bloody. In addition, there has been a great loss of life in the Romanian incident owing to the repelling power of a spring. We worry about the recurrence of this incident in North Korea.

As Zhu Geliang said, he who fathoms out the obligation of the times is a hero. If you are genuinely a "son of the nation," you should not recoil any more. You should look at the quiet trends of the times, casting off your egotism and arbitrary decisions. We talk about these things in hopes for a brilliant future of the Korean nation, thus, you should bear them in mind.

Listening to North Korean Radio May Be Allowed

SK2912045789 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 27 Dec 89 p 1

[Excerpt] It was learned on 27 December that the government is considering allowing the people to listen to North Korean broadcasts to induce openness in the North without provoking North Korea.

At the same time, the government, on the assumption that economic exchange and cooperation between the North and South is the area at which to begin an approach to North Korea, is considering a specific plan to put it into practice.

In connection with the lifting of restrictions on listening to North Korean broadcasts, Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku disclosed: We are considering unilaterally allowing the people to listen to North Korean radio broadcasts, including Pyongyang broadcasts, to enable North Korea to be a responsible member of the international community without provoking North Korea and to promote our society's understanding of North Korea.

Minister Yi continued: This can be done by lifting the jamming on the radio broadcasts. In preparation for the

possible abuse by North Korea of our step of unilaterally lifting the restrictions on listening to the North's broadcasts, we are considering allowing the people to listen to Pyongyang radio, which is not a propaganda broadcast against the South but a broadcast intended for the North Korean people, in the first place.

Minister Yi, however, said that "because of the differences in the television broadcasting method between North and South Korea as well as the possible excessive shock that may result from doing so, we think it inappropriate to lift restrictions on watching North Korean television at this stage." He then continued that "even if our side proposed to the North side to lift the restrictions on watching television by the people of North and South, the North side would hardly be able to accept it," adding that lifting restrictions on television viewing will have to be preceded by an agreement between the North and South. [passage omitted]

Police Break Up Sit-in at Electronics Firm

SK2912022689 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Dec 89 p 3

[Text] Masan, Kyongsangnam-to—Police whisked away 21 workers from TC Electronics Korea in the Masan Free Export Zone yesterday for questioning, breaking up a sit-in protesting the shutdown of the troubled firm.
About 60 workers of TC Electronics Korea, Dealim Motor and Saesil Enterprise occupied the offices in the main building of the company at about 7 p.m. Wednesday after the white-collar employees went home.
The workers, all from the Masan-Changwon Union league, staged an overnight sit-in in the offices and on the rooftop, demanding that management repeal the company closedown order.
The officials of Samil Public Accounting Inc. are now at work writing off the dispute-ridden TC Electronics Korea Corp., a U.S.-invested company.
The workers splashed kerosene around the offices and on the rooftop, threatening to set fire to the building when police forced their way in.
About 1,200 police troopers stormed the building.
Police made no report of injuries in the morning scuffle.

Dissident Leader Sentenced to 3 Years in Jail

SK2912023089 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Dec 89 p 3

[Text] Kwangju—Dissident leader Pae Chong-yol, 55, charged with master-minding anti-government demonstrations and publishing an illegal periodical, was sentenced to three years in jail, plus a one-year suspension of his civil rights yesterday at the district court here.

Presiding Judge Chae Yong-su said the court found him guilty of violating the National Security Law and the Law on Assembly and Demonstration.

The bench ruled that the co-chairman of Chonminnyon, the nation's largest dissident alliance, had adovated North Korea's anti-South revolutionary strategy in his articles for "Minhyop Shinmun," the organ of the Kwangju branch of Chonminnyon.

Firms Raise Funds From Securities Market

SK2712025889 Seoul YONHAP in English 0250 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 27 (YONHAP)—South Korean firms raised 21 trillion won (30.9 billion U.S. dollars) from the securities market this year, up 77.8 percent from 1988, and used over 70 percent of the total as working capital, officials at the securities industry reported Wednesday. The officials said the nation's 626 listed companies used 72.8 percent of the money, which excluded gains from selling old shares, for working capital, 22.2 percent for equipment and 4.9 percent for refunding.

Paid-in capital increases were used to raise 51.8 percent of the cash, followed by issuing bonds (31.7 percent), going public (14.2 percent) and public offerings (2.3 percent), according to the officials. They said the market supplied 3.051 trillion won to 124 firms that went public this year, 190.7 percent more than last year.

The sharp rise was caused by listing of the giant state-run Korea electric power corp., four commercial banks and five provincial investment trust companies as well as liberalization of offering prices. Paid-in capital increases totaled 11.125 trillion won (16.36 billion dollars), up 65.5 percent from last year.

The officials said 68.3 percent centered on the finance industry and 31.7 percent on the manufacturing sector. Issuing bonds supplied 6.81 trillion won (10.02 billion dollars), up 60.5 percent from 1988.

Security Firms Make Political Donation to DJP

SK2912043389 Seoul YONHAP in English 0429 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Securities firms gave 5 billion won (7.46 million U.S. dollars) to South Korea's ruling party in November, an official at the securities industry said Friday. Heads of securities companies decided to make the political donations in a meeting in mid-November in response to repeated "requests" from the Democratic Justice Party (DJP) since May, an official of the Korea Securities Dealers Association (KSDA) said.

"The contribution is unrelated with the government's step on Dec. 12," said Kim Young-il, KSDA president. "The donation was discussed from June and effected in November."

The government announced a package of measures to bail out the sagging stock market on Dec. 12, including releasing an unlimited amount of money to securities firms to buy shares. The firms handed 5 billion won to the Central Election Management Committee. More than 300 million won (some 440,000 dollars) each came

from five major securities companies, 200 million won each from four medium companies and 100 million won each from small firms, a KSDA source said.

The election committee receives all political donations and then forwards them to the designated party. An official of the committee confirmed the donation by the securities firms to the DJP.

* DJP Factionalism Seen in Post-No Tae-u Era

902C0014A Seoul SIN TONG-A in Korean No 10, Oct 89 pp 246-257

[Article by Kim Tae-kon: "An In-Depth Analysis of the DJP's Internal Feud"]

[Text] **Will the DJP [Democratic Justice Party] "Stay in Good Shape"?**

Will the DJP stay in good shape? It may be too early to predict, but recently inside and outside the DJP there have been signs that make it difficult to deny that there are doubts about its future. This is because leaving aside the current social and economic difficulties, the possibility that there will be a regrouping of the political world in connection with strategies for taking the reins of power after the expiration of the current term of President No Tae-u gives rise to speculation that the future look of the DJP will be quite different from what it is now.

The DJP has as an immediately goal to contribute to the stability of the No Tae-u administration, which has entered the second half of its term, and to enhance the achievements of this administration. But it is equally true that the DJP has a strong determination to hang on to the reins of government for another term. This is our judgment based on the realities in our country, including, among others, the inclination of the existing elite class to monopolize power, and more specifically, the TK (Taegu-Kyongbuk) group's characteristic aversion to suffering any damage to its vested interests. It is due to this that we may conclude that a considerable part of the ruling camp except for President No and his close aides, is concerned about paving the institutional groundwork for continuing to hold the reins of government for "the next term" and that a positive record of achievement of President No is needed because this will be important in continuing to hold on to the reins of power for the next term.

As part of its plan for holding on to the reins of government for the next term, the TK group is advocating political restructuring and the introduction of the parliamentary cabinet system, whatever its professed goals may be, and this plan does not rule out the possibility that there will be a change in the political topography, including a merger between the DJP and another party. It is surmised that in this process, the TK group may show no lingering affection for the preservtion of the DJP. We see this possibility ail the more because many of the TK members are not charter members of the DJP but they joined the party later.

It is possible—although this is only a guarded speculation—that the antagonism and discord among various factions of the ruling camp with an eye on the "post-No Tae-u" era will have dire consequences, even, as a worse case scenario, including the collapse of the DJP, and this discord is one of the factors which arouse doubt as to the "soundness" of the DJP.

As a matter of fact, there were diverse opinions within each of the successive ruling parties, and opinions are more diverse particularly in the present DJP than they used to be under the Fifth Republic. This diversity is quite natural for a political party. But the problem is that the present DJP lacks a clear mechanism for adjusting differing views, and what is more, signs of an internal feud are visible even from the outside—a phenomenon which has something to do with the leadership ability of the party president, that is, President No, and the strategies for the "next term."

A good example is the stir created by the statement of then DJP Secretary General Yi Chong-can in August. This ripple was not a mere difference of opinion, but a product of the hidden structural conflict and deep-rooted confrontation between the TK and non-TK forces, and it even appeared to be strife among factions as they bet their political fortunes, and in the midst of this ripple, the two feuding sides have exhibited even what seems to be temperamental enmity. This ripple points to the possibility that the intraparty discord could surface at any time.

Much Room for Internal Strife

Skeptics about the future of DJP begin by pointing out that the DJP is fraught with a lot of possibilities of internal strife. According to them, there always exist the possibility of strife among figures who have an eye on power for the next term after the incumbent president. In addition the differences among party members in their opinions regarding the founding of the DJP, the relations between the Fifth and Sixth Republics and the current situation, and the corresponding differences in their definition of the characteristics of a DJP administration present the possibility of strife.

The DJP was hurriedly created as an "external party" by the "new military authorities" who emerged as new strong men in the political vacuum in 1980—it was the Chon Tu-wan party created by President Chon for the purpose of holding power.

It was natural that following the inauguration of the Sixth Republic, doubt arose as to how long President No will carry on the DJP, "President Chon's party." Many personages belonging to private groups organized during the presidential election were nominated as candidates for the 26 April [1988] general election, and this fact reflects that President No apparently did not have much faith in the DJP. This explains why there are incessant

rumors about dissolving the DJP and creating a new party—rumors which may be a manifestation of the hidden hopes of "private organizations" which regard themselves as contributors to the victory in the presidential election.

Recently, there is the rumor that in the course of the recent secret discussions on plans for political restructuring, a high-ranking authority from the TK group raised the question: "The Liberal Party fell in the 19 April incident, the Republican Party fell in the 26 October incident, but why has the DJP been maintained intact after the 29 June presidential proclamation [in 1987]?"

In addition to this basic attribute, the juxtaposition of the key figures of the Fifth and Sixth Republics and their failure to move forward and unite themselves increase chances of strife between them with a greater degree of certainty. The DJP cannot avoid two-sidedness or duality in its membership composition, in its views of current affairs, and in its techniques of governing, and is fraught with the possibility of an internal conflict and clash. In nominating the candidates for the 13th National Assembly, former President Chon and incumbent President No had their own quotas of candidates assigned them. This proves that there was the juxtaposition of heterogeneous forces already in the process of selecting the "leading forces" of the new republic.

Furthermore, the Sixth Republic is a government which was born with the paradoxical structure which requires the liquidation of its own past. If the Sixth Republic had effectively opened a new era, this duality would have been merged into a single color. But as of now, 1 and ½ years after it was installed, it has not yet succeeded in finding any secret formula for resolving this duality. No longer able to conceal its colors, the DJP is now exposing its own disorderliness, the conceptions of the Fifth and Sixth Republics coming into conflict with each other among individual party members and within the party machinery.

In their conflicting views of the current state of affairs, party officials even squabble over their affairs performance records despite the fading commitment to democratization originally made in the 29 June proclamation, one side claiming credit for the democratization drive of the Sixth Republic and the other side claiming credit for the economic stability under the Fifth Republic as symbolized by the one-digit inflation rate.

In mapping out concrete policy measures or strategies to deal with the opposition, a unanimous voice is seldom heard within the ruling camp, and this is a good example of the DJP's disunity. After the 7 July proclamation, on which our people pinned their hopes for opening a new vista for national reunification, there have been no follow-up measures, giving rise to the criticism that the proclamation was motivated by the interests of the present regime. With regard to the plan to introduce the conception that land is public property, which was heralded as a measure which will open a new horizon for economic equality, a revision of this conception has become inevitable despite the president's open statement to the contrary. In addition, the vacillation of the ruling camp on the issue of having the two former presidents, Chon Tu-hwan and Choe Kyu-ha, testify before the National Assembly and on the opposition demand for purging the key figures of the Fifth Republic are understood to be a manifestation of the duality of the DJP. The frequent revision of the ruling camp's strategy with regard to the Kwangju issue and the issue of cleaning up the old stable of the Fifth Republic gives an inkling of the depth of this duality.

As a result, when the question of fixing responsibility of historical importance is raised in connection with the issues of Kwangju and the Fifth Republic, or when a question relating to picking a successor to President No crops up, there is always an internal squabble visible even from the outside despite President No's appeal for self-restraint, because they have conflicting individual interests directly connected to their political fortune. Some good examples of this squabble are the stir created last spring over the problem of how to handle Assemblyman Chong Ho-yong in connection with the Kwangju issue, and another stir created by the recent Yi Chong-chan statement on political restructuring which he made with an eye toward the "post-No" era. On the surface these conflicts have subsided, but they remind us of the fact that the state of intraparty conflict has the potential of deranging the fate of the entire organization under certain circumstances.

Discord Associated With Personal Ties

The same is true with personal ties. There is not only a conflict of interest between the TK and non-TK groups but also several factional lineages in the political community, even inside the TK group. Despite the active efforts at mediation by the "hidden godfather" (Sin Hyon-hwak, according to rumors), the TK group is internally split into the Pak Chun-kyu, Chong Ho-yong, Kim Yun-hwan, and Pak Chol-on factions. Some point out that to cover up the internal split over the TK strategy to "preserve its citadel," these leaders are trying to camouflage the split by pretending as if they were fighting against the non-existent Seoul-Kyonggi (SK) group.

These four factions are not the only ones that deserve attention with regard to personal connections within the ruling camp. The force led by Kim Pok-tong—which belongs to the ruling camp in general but may be characterized as a group outside the DJP or an outsider group—exists as another guard unit of President No. This group, although it keeps the existing DJP organization at arm's length, is counted as a variable whenever there is a reshuffle of major party posts or a change in the party structure. In addition to this group, the military, the big money interests, and the technocrats exercise overt and covert influence on the formulation and operation of DJP lines.

The discord associated with personal ties begins with criticism against the "TK tyranny," the criticism that the DJP is becoming the TK party despite its professed goal of becoming a party of the people. Since the 26 April general election, the regional characteristics of the DJP has strengthened. Some say that it only looks that way because the TK group became the largest base of the party, but people outside the TK area do not think to. This criticism stems from President No's failure to free himself from the constrictions of the existing personal ties, but some observers attribute it to the 40-year monopoly of political power by elites from the TK area. In particular, there are signs that the tendency of President No to place the TK group at the center in the management of the political situation is increasing, stirring ever stronger antipathy toward this tendency. Pak Chol-on, first minister of state, becomes the target of this antiparty on many occasions.

The 30 August reshuffling of the party hierarchy was President No's countermeasure against the undercover strife among these factions. The reshuffle, featuring the "castration" of General Secretary Yi Chong-chan and the simultaneous "stepping down" of Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan and their replacement by hard-liners Yi Chun-kyu and Yi Han-tong respectively, may be interpreted as having had a multiple purpose. On the surface it was aimed at reining in the TK force's tendency to leave the rest biting the dust—which has been the main cause of the internal discord—and also at attenuating even the voice of the non-mainstream faction which has been consolidating its position with the support of public opinion, while quieting the complaints which have affected President No's style of governing and even his long-term political strategy.

This reshuffle, which may be called a blitz and went beyond all expectations in terms of new personnel selected as well as in terms of timing and method, is interpreted as a reflection of President No's determination to quell the internal feud as soon as possible and establish his system of governing in person as his administration enters the mid-term. Particularly, the newly appointed two Yi's do not belong to the TK group geographically, and because in terms of temperament the two Yi's are hard-liners highly trusted by President No, the Yi-Yi line draws attention in connection with ways to settle outstanding political issues, including the question of liquidating the legacies of the Fifth Republic.

It is surmised that the Yi-Yi line will first proceed to take a firm grip of the party and show a hard-line stance in dealing with issues such as liquidating the legacies the Fifth Republic, while supporting President No's rule. President No has reproached particularly DJP officials for the slow pace in liquidating the past and ordered a "charge," apparently in anticipation of turbulent political weather during the regular National Assembly session. Depending on moves on the part of the opposition camp, a critical situation may develop.

It is to be noted in this connection that if the Yi-Yi leadership forces a unilateral settlement of the Kwangju issue and the question of purging the key figures of the Fifth Republic by offering compensation in the former case and issuing a declaration in the latter case, then it might signal the beginning of another clash and the drifting of the four-party system. In addition, as things stand now, if the question of the Fifth Republic is settled for now and former President Chon Tu-hwan returns to Seoul, it is possible that the so-called Fifth Republican forces within the DJP will raise their heads at once and pour out their complaints against those who are currently in control of the party.

Relations Between TK, Non-TK, New Mainstream Groups

Because the intraparty discord resulting from the rivalry for the mantle of power in the "post-No Tae-u" era was a proximate cause of the latest party reshuffle, the reshuffle was carried out with the judgment that President No needed the wholehearted support of the party in consolidating his achievements as his administration enters its mid-term. The reshuffle made it clear that any discussion about his possible successor will not be tolerated and that the emergence of a self-styled intermediate boss will not be recognized. This may be interpreted as meaning that the president intends to "bless" his own hand-picked successor.

The person at the center of attention among the appointees in the latest reshuffle was new DJP General Secretary Yi Chun-ku. He does not appear to be a greedy person as he is known as " a man who can be contented with eating cold rice with water." He has been critical of the mode of operation of the TK group or former party General Secretary Yi Chong-chan and, generally, the way the Sixth Republic has been handling political issues. It seems that Yi Chun-ku has been successful for now in correcting the internal atmosphere of the party, as some say that he was approximately 90 percent "in control of party discipline the moment he took up his new post."

However, this does not mean that the inter-factional moves aimed at the hegemony of the party have disappeared. Broadly speaking, the TK and non-TK forces will confront with each other below the surface, and it is expected that there will be full-scale moves by the factions within the TK group led by party Chairman Pak Chun-kyu, former DJP Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan, Assemblyman Chong Ho-yong, and First Minister of State Pak Chol-on. At the same time, there will be full-scale interactions among the TK group, the non-TK group led by former party General Secretary Yi Chong-chan, and the new mainstream represented by the new Yi-Yi line.

First, the new mainstream fell in step with the TK group in relieving Yi Chong-chan as general secretary, but its honeymoon with the TK group will not last too long. New General Secretary Yi Chun-ku, who directs the party's influence, use to criticize the TK group for

leaving the rest far behind, and he has taken the position that President No needs to consolidate the unity of the whole ruling camp in order to free himself from the influence of the TK group. Judging from this fact, the new party secretary general is expected to reduce the scope of maneuverability of the TK group so that the influence of Chairman Pak Chun-kyu may be curbed.

The relationship between the new mainstream and First Minister of State Pak Chol-on cannot be smooth. In the past, Yi Chun-ku was critical of Pak Chol-on for exercising influence not only on the North policy but even on important personnel actions as well. Yi Chun-ku's relationship with Pak Chol-on is so awkward that during the June tempest caused by speculation that a party and government reshuffle was imminent, the rumor circulated that Yi had recommended to President No that Pak be made to step down. According to an analysis by some observers, the appoint of Yi Chun-ku as secretary general was meant as a gambit to hold Pak, first minister of state, in check. At any rate, it is expected that the influence of Pak Chol-on will wane.

In case of former Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan, it would be difficult for him to make any conspicuous moves for the time being because he has no special group of followers, although he is President No's intimate personal friend and close associate. Chances are rather high that he will roll back into a post outside the National Assembly in an anticipated sweeping party-government reshuffle at the year's end which will include the replacement of the prime minister.

It seems that Kim Yun-hwan was not deeply involved in the latest reshuffle of the party. Immediately prior to the reshuffle, Chairman Pak Chun-kyu, Sin Hyon-hwak, and others are said to have simultaneously persuaded him to step down. According to subsequent reports, in doing this Pak Chun-kyu and others are said to have pointed out that unless he did not step down, there would be the criticism that the reshuffle was a product of the autocracy of the TK group and that no matter how pending issues, including that of Assemblyman Chong Ho-yong, might be settled, he would feel somewhat responsible. He visited the Blue House in accordance with their urging in order to accept the president's reshuffle plan. It is surmised that at this meeting, the president may have given some kind of assurance while asking him to "assist on the floor." Interpreting the new Yi-Yi line as a "shock brigade" to break through the political barriers, some people speculate that former Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan will make a comeback before long, and this speculation apparently was prompted by the aforementioned assurance.

Attention is also focused on what moves Assemblyman Chong Ho-yong, who occupies one of the TK leadership posts, will make. He is regarded by the opposition as a stumbling block to settling the issue of the Fifth Republic, and at one time some of President No's close aides attempted to break the political impasse by making him surrender his official posts. Accordingly, he can hardly be comfortable in his feelings toward Pak Chol-on and Kim Yun-hwan.

Former Secretary General Yi Chong-chan has been held in check by the TK group in his ambition to take the reins of government, condemned as one who has aggravated internal strife by criticizing the way the ruling camp has been handling the political situation and even by going so far as to attack the political vision of President No. For now, he is expected to take a low-profile. But as suggested by his own statement that "there is no change in my conviction, and I will proceed with the work of confirming" the validity of this conviction, he is expected to make efforts to stage a comeback. He has no clear support base within the parliament due to the ruling camp's inherent tendency of relying on the powers that be, but he judges himself to be a moderate rationalist who has supporters inside the National Assembly and among the party's rank and file and the public. There is the possibility that he, one of the few remaining charter members of the party, will attempt a frontal breakthrough by encircling the outer walls with the support of rank-and-file party members.

Yi Chong-chan asserts that "party unity cannot be achieved by forced silence or through party reshuffling." The moment he judges that there is a favorable response inside and outside the party to his stand, he is expected to swing into action at the party convention this coming December at the earliest, and in late 1990 or early 1991 at the latest, by which time the outline of the blueprint for taking the reins of government for the term following President No's will emerge. The mainstream (both the TK group and the new mainstream), which is well aware of the strategy of the former general secretary, is expected to hold him tightly in check in the operation of the party and in the management of party members.

Distribution of Power Among Influential Persons

It is difficult to grasp the current distribution of power within the DJP. Most DJP assemblymen have not yet openly disclosed their "factional affiliations," and there is no need to make such disclosure. As a matter of fact, they sit astride of two to three fences. Nevertheless, by pooling the opinions of many people, we have arrived at the following rough estimate of the strength of various influential factional leaders.

First, in the case of the TK group, Pak Chun-kyu, Kim Yun-hwan, Chong Ho-yong, and Pak all have their own following, and of these four, Chong Ho-yong and Pak Chol-on have supporters among assemblymen. In the case of First Minister of State Pak Chol-on, his strong point is that he has numerous supporters, diverse in their geographical distribution. In the case of Assemblyman Chong, his strong point is the unity of his supporters who are concentrated in the Kyongbuk-Taegu area. The power base of former Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan was already covered above. In the case of Chairman Pak Chun-kyu, he has no power base inside the party, and his

position is said to be that of keeping balance and achieving accommodations among the three.

First, counted as belonging to the Pak Chol-on group are these assemblymen from the at-large constituency: Kim Kil-hong, Pak Sung-chae, Kang Chae-sop, Yi Sang-hoe, Yi Pyong-yong, Na Chang-chuk, Yi Chae-hwang, Sim Ki-sop, Kim Chong-kil, Chi Yon-tae, and Sin Yong-sun; and these assemblymen from local constituencies: Yi Sung-yun (Inchon North-A), Kang Yu-hyok (Inchon Southeast), and Kim Chong-kwon (Ulchin, North Kyongsang Province), in addition to Yi Kung-kyu (Sonchon, South Chungchong Province), Han Sung-su (Chunchon, Kangwon Province), Pak Chi-won (Hwasong, Osan Constituency, Kyonggi Province) Yi Chong-mu (Taegu South), Chon Yong-won (Kuri, Kyonggi Province), Kwon Tal-su (Songtan, Pyongtaek Constituency, Kyonggi Province), Cho Yong-chang (Inchon West).

Persons counted as belonging to the Chong Ho-yong group are these assemblymen: Yu Su-ho (Central District), Choe Un-chi (Seoul B), Kim Yong-tae, (North District), Yi Chi-ho (Susong), and Kim Chin-yong (Yongji, Yongpung), Chong Tong-yun (Yongchon City, Yongchon), Kim Kun-su (Sangju, Sangju City), Chong Chang-hwa (Uisong), O Han-ku (Yongyang-Ponghwa), and Yi Sang-tuk (Yongil-Ullung). In addition, some regard Assemblyman Hwang Yun-ki (Kyongju) as belonging to the Chong Ho-yong group.

In the case of Assemblyman Yi Chong-chan, he may have many sympathizers but it is difficult to ascertain their number because they do not expressly identify themselves as such. Assemblyman Nam Che-hui (Seoul B) is an overt case, Yi is said to have far more supporters outside the National Assembly. According to rumors, he is trying to win supporters particularly in the Honam area. In addition, unconfirmed reports say that he has many supporters among the graduates of Kyonggi High School. The Kyonggi High School graduates among national assembly members are: Pak Chong-su (Kumnung, Kimchon, North Kyongsang Province), Kim Yong-ku (Tongdaemun B, Seoul), So Sang-sik (at-large constituency), Cho Kyong-sik (at-large constituency), Yi Cha-hon (Pyongtaek, Kyonggi Province), Yi Ung-son (Hongchon, Kangwon Province), Yi Tae-sop (Kangnam B, Seoul), and Chang Kyong-u (Ansan-Ongjin, Kyonggi Province).

In the case of new Floor Leader Yi Han-tong, he has a relatively weak factional inclination and is punctilious in character, and his supporter group is not so large but is said to have plenty of potential. Because he is not hated by others, it seems that he may have a chance to fish in troubled waters or grasp an unexpected opportunity depending on the outcome of negotiations. The following assemblymen are regarded as belonging to his group: Kim Yong-ku (Tongdaemun B, Seoul), Pak Chae-hong (Kumi, North Kyongsang Province), Yim Mu-ung (Puchon Central), Yi Tok-ho (Tongduchon, Yangju), Yi Song-ho (Migum, South Yangju), Chong Tong-song (Yoju), and Chong Hae-nam (Kanghwa, Kimpo).

In the case of Secretary General Yi Chun-ku, there seems to be no possibility of building his own factional lineage.

Polemics Over Strategy for the Next Term.

Now the author will examine the ripple caused by Yi Chong-chan. The ripple exposed the undercover strife among various factions inside the DJP. At the 23 August seminar at Tosan Academy Research Institute, then Secretary General Yi Chong-chan delivered a speech titled "My Political Vision." Referring to the move being pushed in the inner sanctum of the ruling camp at the government level for a revision of the constitution to introduce the parliamentary cabinet form of government and for the restructuring of the political world, he called this move "premature" and demanded that it be shelved. He also criticized the way the party has been operating.

That statement was tantamount to an all-out challenge to the ideas of restructuring the political world and revising the constitution to introduce the parliamentary cabinet form of government, the two tasks of which Hong Song-chol, secretary general of the Office of the President, and Pak Chol-on, first minister of state, were said to be exclusively in charge under the "leadership" of President No Tae-u. Because these two ideas were being pushed in profound secrecy in the inner sanctum of the Blue House and because the TK group regarded the introduction of the parliamentary cabinet form of government as a powerful means for coming into power for the next term, the statement of then Secretary General Yi Chong-chan was bound to give a great shock to the ruling camp which was deeply permeated with a sense of dissatisfaction with and skepticism about the way President No was handling the political situation.

Yi Chong-chan dwelt on two subjects, namely, the subject of revising the constitution to introduce the cabinet form of government and restructuring the political world, and the subject of democracy within the party. But the main focus of the speech was the first subject related to holding the reins of power for the next term, and that was where the TK group's reaction was concentrated. The attack on Yi Chong-chan may have something to do with the inner feelings of President No, who may have felt unhappy about the sound of discord heard at the outset of his mid-term in office, the time when his administration is expected to go into high gear. But, basically it was the reaction of the TK group against the nonmainstream which has great potential for becoming a force to be reckoned with.

In this connection, it is to be noted that unlike the opposition parties, the nonmainstream in the ruling party is negligible in strength. It is rather due to President No's "laissez faire" style in operating the party that until now former Secretary General Yi Chong-chan has been able to express his opinion freely. But when the voice of the TK group is joined to President No's supreme power, the territory of the nonmainstream

cannot but shrink. Another factor that blocks the nonmainstream from becoming an influential force is that there are so many "positions" in the ruling party that it is difficult for the nonmainstream to unite. So there is only a small chance of the TK's "fear" materializing.

The recent political ripple was caused mainly by the conflicting views over the question of how to build the force that would bring the party into power. The one view is that of the TK group which seeks to stay in power easily with the forces of vested interests as its power base, and the other is the opinion of the mainstream led by Yi Chong-chan that the DJP should subject itself to the judgment of the people by improving its practices and changing its looks. At present, few support Yi Chong-chan's view on the surface, but there must be quite a large undercurrent of sympathizers in view of the line and principle he advocates and the logic of his argument.

Commenting on the purpose of the Yi Chong-chan speech, the mainstream said that he was just grandstanding at a time when it was certain that a party reshuffle would come soon, in order to give the impression that his would be relinquishing his post with dignity. On the other hand, among the lower echelon of the party, some hailed his speech as a manifestation of his loyalty to the party. The ripple caused by this speech is interpreted as a manifestation of the difference of opinion between him and the TK group over strategies for consolidating the party's position [in preparation for the post-No Tae-u period], a difference resulting from the fact that the these two groups have different power bases inside the party. As evident from the behavior of Chairman Pak, the TK group argues that the DJP should first secure a majority in the National Assembly jointly by forming a coalition with the NDRP [New Democratic Republican Party], and then prepare for the next term after No Tae-u, while insuring the smooth operation of the No Tae-u administration.

One thing that should be kept in mind is that judging from its passive attitude toward distributing vested interests among factions, the TK group will not anticipate a distribution of central political powers unless under an extraordinary circumstance. A coalition with another party will not go beyond the limit of regional distribution of power in its character. So, when a coalition with the NDRP is formed, it would be difficult for the TK group and NDRP President Kim to agree on the place he will occupy in the coalition. In addition, the ruling camp thinks that a considerable command capability is needed in governing at the national level in the context of confrontation between North and South, and this thought is another factor that renders the distribution of powers difficult.

Regarding this view, Yi Chong-chan refutes Chairman Pak's logic of numbers that "what matters is the number, and first we have to get a majority." Yi says he has no objection to political restructuring or the parliamentary cabinet form of government per se. But he argues that a coalition without cause would not only meet resistance from the opposition but arouse antipathy among the people because it would only give them the impression that such a coalition is nothing but collusion and maneuvering and a blind ambition to hold on to the reins of government for the next term. According to him, increasing the number of DJP National Assembly seats does not mean increased strength.

Interests Enmeshed in Party Reform Issue

The coalition issue is also related to the party reform issue. Particularly, former Secretary General Yi Chong-chan demands that a party vice president be chosen by election in order to breathe life into the party. This is in conflict with the statement of President No that the election of a vice president through competition "will not be possible before 1991." The TK group argues that if an election of the vice president were to be held, it would only aggravate the division of the party. On the contrary, Yi Chong-chan is of the opinion that an election for the vice president should be held when the president still has the power strong enough to resolve any possible confusion, but that if the election should take place when the phenomenon of a "lame duck" president appears, it is feared that the party might break up as a result.

A related issue is the current controversy on reducing the number of deputies. At present, there are about 10,000 deputies. Of this total, 70 percent are members of the Central Committee. Chairman Pak Chun-kyu's group and First Minister of State Pak Chol-on's group demand that the number should be reduced between 2,000 and 3,000. It is said that some of them are recently demanding that the number should be brought down to 600 or so. Their goal is to reduce the size of the Central Committee. Yi Chong-chan is not only opposed to the proposed reduction of the number of deputies itself but also is asking this question: when Central Committee members who have until now paid their membership fees and contributed to the development of the party are suddenly abandoned, how is the party going to deal with their reaction?

Whatever the outward reasons for pros and cons, the controversy over the size of the membership of deputies developed because different groups have different calculations on laying the groundwork for consolidating their positions in anticipation of not only the reshuffling of party posts but also the restructuring of the political world. The reasoning of the mainstream is that a large number of deputies will make the assault more difficult, so it wants to reduce the number of deputies to the Central Committee inclined to support former Secretary General Yi Chong-chan, who is so hard-nosed that the opinions of party officials cannot easily influence him and who is popular among the masses. On the other hand, Yi Chong-chan, who seeks to move up by relying on support from the rank and file, cannot watch the number of deputies reduced with his arms folded. The DJP is currently renewing the membership registration

of deputies in advance of the party convention scheduled in December, and some predict that the number will decrease.

One interesting question is: How President No will "hand-pick" his "heir." In this connection, doubt arises as to whether it will be possible to hand-pick a successor in this age of democracy when the public has such a high level of political consciousness as we see now. Moreover, it is also questionable whether President No, who is experiencing in person the pang associated with the issue of the Fifth Republic, wants to be able to hand-pick his heir. Needless to say, a formula for selecting a successor which would come from the deputies is more desirable. Yi Chong-chan, not to mention President No, seems to realize this truth. That is why President No is expected to delay the selection of his heir until such time when the DJP is at his beck and call, making it possible to hand-pick his heir without dissension. On the other hand, Yi Chong-chan seeks to consolidate his position by using the existing organization which is to his advantage, before other forces debut as a result of political restructuring. Naturally he will press for an early selection of President No's successor. The mainstream seeks to expand its strength by bringing in outside forces, and Yi Chong-chan was actually ousted from his post while opposing this move. In a recent interview, Chairman Pak Chun-ku said, "The DJP will select the successor in 2 years. He will appear like a meteor about 1 year prior to the election.... It is possible to nominate an outsider." This statement may be interpreted as an expression of the mainstream's strategy for marking time.

In this connection, the role that will be played by the new mainstream, which has the nickname of "shock brigade," becomes clear. Their duty cannot but put into practice President No's philosphy of government, the opening of "the No Tae-u era" with the beginning of the 1990's. This is the reason why the new mainstream, whose members have no personal ambition, has taken charge of party operations. To consolidate the foundation of the DJP rule, the new mainstream will have to reshuffle the staff, rearrange the power base through political restructuring, and will busily move around waging a formidable struggle against the opposition to liquidate the past.

What is at stake in the undercover intraparty strife over the issue of the number of deputies is not the selection of party posts by election, but the strife is rather much in the nature of the groundwork for political restructuring, including the DJP's merger with another party, a matter which requires a decision by the party convention. Accordingly, it is not yet clear whether the party convention scheduled for December will be the arena for a showdown between the mainstream and the nonmainstream or turn out to be nothing more than a formality in preparation for political restructuring which it is certain will not take place this year. We cannot rule out the possibility that the convention will even be postponed depending on circumstances.

Will the DJP Collapse?

Because of these internal factors, chances are good that when an all-out move for political restructuring begins, conflicting interests will clash openly. Irrespective of whether the scope of political restructuring is limited to a mathematical "stopgap" measure aimed, as is already known, at achieving a majority in the National Assembly through a coalition between the DJP and the NDRP, or whether the restructuring will take the form of expansion through the so-called grand conservative coalition, the political interests within the DJP will clash with one another in full force.

In addition, if the ruling party should retreat before the opposition on the outstanding issues, including the issue of the Fifth Republic, despite the strong offensive of the ruling camp, or if it should commit mistakes in the trial-error process of carrying on the current public security issue-dominated political scene, the functions and role of the new mainstream as a political group backing up the No Tae-u era will run aground, and, moreover, internal division and antagonism will become conspicuous with one faction trying to pass the buck to another.

What is more, when the regular session of the National Assembly comes to an end, political tension may be created in order to strike home the necessity of political restructuring. In this event, there is the danger that if the new mainstream makes a false step, however minor, in its busy walk, it might entail consequences more serious than the "collapse" of the DJP.

The attitude of Kim Tae-chung and Kim Yong-sam is expected to have a great impact on the position of the DJP. In the coming regular session of the National Assembly, these two Kims are expected to cooperate with each other in dealing with the outstanding issues, such as settling the issues of Kwangju the Fifth Republic. This cooperation may be aimed at coping with the waves of attack the DJP will mount, but it could also be interpreted as a wait-and-see tactic on their part to determine where the DJP will stand at the year's end, because at about that time it will be possible to determine whether President No will step down early or his tenure will be secured. Depending on the attitude of the two Kims, it is possible that political restructuring will become more pressing.

Quite a few express the opinion that it is doubtful whether the DJP will be able to effectively cope with the situation if the offensive of the two Kims against the ruling party picks up momentum at the conclusion of the regular session of the National Assembly, and if the opposition camp outside the National Assembly, which has been held back by the public security issue-dominated political scene, launches a counterattack by joining forces with the opposition parties. It is highly possible that social and economic issues—such as labor-management disputes, unemployment, the problem concerning the National Teachers Union, the problem of

new arrests arising from the security issue-dominated political scene—and the economic difficulties such as the slowdown in exports and rising prices will have a multiplying effect. In this event, the No Tae-u administration and the DJP will be faced with a dire situation. When it is believed that public trust in the No Tae-u administration is questionable, the opposition parties, opposition civic forces, and general public will mount a full-scale offensive against the ruling party once again calling for an interim appraisal of President No's performance. In this event, the possibility can hardly be ruled out that the DJP will enter a period of pain on the eve of what may be called a mid-air disintegration.

It should be borne in mind that when dire political or social confusion develops threatening the people's livelihood and national security, there is no reason radical change will not come, no matter what its character may be, despite the optimism of the powers that be. In this event, judging from the experience in the past, it is doubtful whether the DJP will be able to survive.

It should be kept in mind that some are doubtful as to whether President No will lead the DJP as his partner for the purpose of accumulating his achievements and maintaining his power.

On the other hand, judging from its attributes, the TK group is expected to maintain its unity, although there may be antipathy among its members toward one another. Because of opposition by former General Secretary Yi Chong-chan, the TK group is currently stalling in the move for political restructuring and the revision of the constitution to pave the way for the parliamentary cabinet form of government, but in the future it is expected that it will not only proceed with this move but also attempt to reorganize the party into an airtight organization with itself at the center. According to observers, after the end of the year, following the settlement of major issues such as the issue of the Fifth Republic and the introduction of a local autonomy system, an attempt is likely to be made at political restructuring with an eye toward "the next term." Attention is focused on the question whether in that event the TK group will join those forces which have the potential for power in accordance with the practice of the ruling party. If the nonmainstream puts up strong resistance, it is possible—although the possibility is not very high—that the TK group's plan will end up in a way different from what it hoped for.

When there are strongly visible signs that the DJP might fall and President No or the TK group succeeds in resolving the crisis, a "stopgap" measure may be possible. But when the opposition camp moves toward a merger or the situation develops in an undesirable way, then a "genuine" restructure of the political world may be realized. This possibility cannot be denied outright because the TK group will be under siege, and under such circumstances, change which is possible only when the regime is in its terminal stage might occur.

Moreover, there is enough room for relations with the United States to operate as an external pressure. It is possible that President No's forthcoming visit to the United States in October will mark the watershed in the ROK-U.S. relationship, complicated by the issue of U.S. troop withdrawal, the problem of defense burden associated with the transfer of bases, and trade friction, in addition to the difference of opinion over the North policy. The achievements under the rule of President No and the DJP are expected to be appraised positively, and in view of the nature of the ROK-U.S. relationship so far, this visit may become part of a political situation to which the fate of the DJP will be linked directly.

As noted above, there is the possibility that the squabble between the powers that be and the opposing forces coming before the race for the power in the post-No Tae-u period will assume the appearance of confrontation beginning this winter, when the 1980's will end and the new decade of the 1990's will begin. In a short-term perspective, we cannot rule out the possibility that depending on the social and economic situation, the spring of 1990 will become the time for a showdown to decide the fate of "President No's DJP organized by President Chon Tu-hwan."

* Kim Yong-kap Forms Conservative Organization

902C0052A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 29 Oct 89 pp 40-41

[Interview with Kim Yong-kap by reporter U Chong-chang in his private office at Socho-dong, Seoul on the afternoon of 16 October]

[Text] Founding Ceremony Scheduled for Mid-December, Committee Was Formed Based on Demands After Resignation From the Ministry Post

At last, Mr Kim Yong-kap, 53, the former minister of government administration who stood at the forefront in warning about the growth of the leftist movement in our society, has embarked on a "big job." In order to repel the leftist revolutionary forces and bring the social disorder under control, he volunteered, with a great enthusiasm, to form an organization tentatively named "Committee for Pan-National Campaign of Democratic Reform," which includes conscientious and patriotic figures with a strong will to protect a free democratic system. Mr Kim made himself clear in interviews with reporters just before giving his speech titled, "Our Position for the Protection of Free Democracy," at the Pusan Citizen Hall sponsored by the Pusan Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 13 October. He said, "We plan to hold a founding ceremony in the middle of December with 100 members."

While working in the office of the minister of government administration, he insisted that in order to smash the leftist forces President No should carry on the mid-term evaluation as he promised. He voluntarily resigned from the post of minister of state on 14 March. In early July, when society was in a state of confusion

because of ideological issues arising from the Reverend Mun Ik-hwan's visit to North Korea, Assemblyman So Kyong-won's secret entry into North Korea, and Miss Yim Su-kyong's participation in the Pyongyang festival, Mr Kim openly said to President No Tae-u that "now is the golden opportunity to defeat the left wing." Known as a "veteran fighter" among conservatives, he has begun to take "action" rather than just talk. To find out why Mr Kim volunteered in founding the committee and what the committee will be like, I met with him in his private office at Socho-dong, Seoul on the afternoon of 16 October.

[U] When did you start planning the formation of the committee?

[Kim] A lot of people visited me immediately after my resignation from the post of the minister of government administration, and insisted that an overwhelming majority of the people are democratic rightists who believe in free democracy and capitalism, but there is no focal point, thus indicating the necessity to form a committee. At that time the talk was limited only to the necessity for this action. After I returned from my trip to the United States on 29 June, I had another meeting with a few people to discuss the state of the nation. In that meeting, we agreed that it is necessary to launch a pan-national campaign led by civilians in order to protect a free democratic system from the threat of the leftist revolutionary forces that are trying to overthrow our system and that the civilian leaders should become the leaders of the general public for such a movement. The objective is to combine the energy of the middle-class, who have been unable to transform their uneasy, worrisome feelings into action, and the conservative rightist forces and security-conscious groups, so that we can free ourselves from the current unrest. In fact, this has long been our attention, but its introduction has been delayed.

[U] Whom did you discuss this with?

[Kim] I will disclose the names during the founding ceremony in the middle of December.

[U] And their occupation?

[Kim] Some of them are former ministers and vice ministers, and some have held even higher positions. The participants come from all walks of life, including prominent figures in the press, entrepreneurs of small and medium businesses, professors, judges and lawyers, people from religious circles, and military officials. What is common among these people is that they are fresh, strong-willed, and possess great administrative ability.

[U] No politicians?

[Kim] Because this is a people's movement, current politicians are not qualified for membership. Among the founders, however, are former politicians of the opposition parties. Although this committee will participate in activities that support democratic rightist parties, it will not form its own political party.

[U] What are the qualifications for membership?

[Kim] Candidates for the leadership positions must be conscientious and be concerned about the future of our country. Anyone who shares our goals can qualify for general membership.

[U] If your target is the entire nation, the number of prospective members could be enormous. What do you think?

[Kim] We plan to launch a national membership drive early next year, and establish a nationwide network. We think millions of people will join.

[U] It will cost a lot of money. What is your source of funding?

[Kim] In the beginning, we will be financed by donations from those who share our goals, but we will eventually develop an independent enterprise. We are presently in the process of developing such plans.

[U] Are there any difficulties in developing plans to form the committee?

[Kim] There are people who actively support the idea of keeping a free democratic system, but hesitate to become actively involved. That is a difficulty.

"Enthusiastic Public, Work Behind the Scenes"

[U] In an interview when the formation of the committee was announced, you said, "The leftist revolutionaries have invaded every corner of our society, and they are now expanding their organizations and have launched all kinds of revolutionary struggle." Could you give some examples?

[Kim] The entire public knows that the leftists have been spreading leftist ideas and have been behind the violent demonstrations on campuses, in work places and in cultural circles—either invisibly or openly. Initially, these leftist groups started as critics of our system, but in the past few years they have grown big and strong in terms of organization and violence, and are expected to reach a critical point around next summer. According to a professor who is connected with leftists, the leftist group has launched a "one-to-five" movement, in which one member aims to recruit five people, in order to increase its membership. If this trend continues, our society will obviously suffer a serious disaster.

[U] Once the committee is formed, who will be its chairman?

[Kim] Let me make something clear now. I will only assume an instrumental role in developing the organization and will never seek to be its leader. I have joined the founders as a member, and the operational structure of the organization will be determined through democratic

procedures. Had I wanted to be a chairman, I would not have openly promoted formation of the committee.

[U] Have you received many phone calls since the announcement of your intent to form the committee?

[Kim] A lot of people have shown an interest. There is a great deal of enthusiasm, including a lot of phone calls.

[U] Were there any insulting phone calls?

[Kim] None, yet.

[U] Have you discussed the committee with Mr Chong Il-kwon, who is in charge of the General Council for Freedom?

[Kim] No, because there is no relation between the two organizations.

[U] At present, work is in progress to launch a publication called HYONDAE ILBO which intends to voice the concerns of the conservative rightists. Is this related with your committee?

[Kim] No.

[U] Currently, there are several organizations in our society which claim to stand for the conservative rightists, but they are all alike except for the names. What are the characteristic differences between the committee and those organizations?

[Kim] I am well aware that despite the fact that the absolute majority of the people in this country belong to the democratic right wing, the legitimate voices of the democratic rightists have not been well represented because of mistakes made by rightist groups, the lack of systematic ties among the rightists, and the dissolution of the rightist parties. As I mentioned earlier, the Committee for Pan-National Campaign of Democratic Reform will only be led by civilians. It will never receive suggestions nor support from the government. Depending on circumstances, it is possible to work jointly with the existing rightist organizations on a private basis. However, we will not allow them to join us if it is only for their own benefit. There are quite a few people who are members of the existing organizations but who would like to support our ideas.

[U] Now that the formation of the committee has been announced, how do you feel about it?

[Kim] I used to say, "When I resigned from the ministry, I left any position of leadership. But I am now betting my life on the formation of the committee." I am using all my energy to be an anchor to keep this country from drifting away if it is caught in a violent sea.

[U] You must be very tired, since your eyes are bloodshot.

[Kim] It is more agonizing now than when I was at the ministry. I wake up around 3 o'clock in the morning and ponder the issues concerning the committee.

* Union Attempts Changes to Conciliatory Image

902C0038 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
18 Oct 89 p 3

[Article by Kim Hyong-ki: "National Teachers' Union Presents New Image"]

[Text] Executive staff members of the National Teachers' Union invited Seoul City Education Council correspondents for a "special treat" at a local restaurant at noon on 17 October. About 10 of the participants were well-known "fearless leaders": they were, Chief Deputy Chairman Yi Pu-yong (former acting chairman), who recently brought a legal suit; Spokesman Hwang Ho-yong; Chief of the Inchon Chapter of the National Teachers' Union Sin Maeng-sun and Deputy Chief of the Seoul Chapter of the National Teachers' Union Kim Hyon-chon.

Even though it was a very modest gathering which was served only dumpling soup and beef rib soup, the fact that the National Teachers' Union invited "institutional" reporters for a meal for the first time since the National Teachers' Union incident was enough to be called an incident in itself.

In fact, during the 2 hour informal session, there were several indications that there may be some changes in the National Teachers' Union. In short, there was the strong impression that "it is attempting to present a softer image."

Such an impression was reflected first by a V neck T-shirt worn by a laid- off teacher who was among the participants. This shirt, which is said to have been designed by an unemployed art teacher, was so well made, so tasteful and stylish that it would be the envy of anyone. If observed closely, this T shirt bore a symbol representing "education" slightly larger than a coin with a smiling child's face on the left side.

This design leaves one with a warm impression which in no way represents a fighting image. One of the participants made the joke that "we sell this T- shirt for 7,000 won at National Teachers' Union events, but if you reporters would like to buy them, we will sell them for 5,000 won." He said, "We are designing items for public sale such as National Teachers' Union badges, socks and towels with the same design." This participant also added that they intend to produce calendars at year's end which will not include a combative wood cut print as in the past, but a picture of a child rolling a hoop.

The National Teachers' Union also disclosed that when union members participate in the monthly neighborhood meeting as a part of the union's public relations activity, they will emphasize the need for education through dialogue only, without published materials unless absolutely necessary. It also announced that on the day of the monthly teacher-student meetings the union will not enter the schools if the school authorities oppose it, but will meet with willing students at a proper place after school.

The last indication of change was strongly reflected in the list of participants in the "National Walk for True Education," slated for 28 October. Among the 16 participants listed were the Student-Parents Association, the Federation of the Movement for Educational Democracy, the Teacher's College Association and the Financial Industry Labor Union, but the National Council of College Representatives (Chondaehyop) was absent. One of the participants explained, "We did not invite them because we thought the Chondaehyop might be busy with other matters besides assisting the National Teachers' Union." However, such an explanation clearly indicates that the National Teachers' Union does not want to be involved in things which will give them a combative image.

One staff member made a speech which can be summarized as follows: "The objective of the National Teachers' Union lies in true education, not in a continued struggle." This staff member also added that the National Teachers' Union no longer aggressively publicizes the names of new members, as in its early days. He also added that in the last couple of months, the National Teachers' Union reorganized up to 70 percent of the initial founding branches, and at the same time supported the schools' position "since teachers did not reorganize the union publicly...."

The atmosphere in the session indicated that "the National Teachers' Union is changing in strategic direction after failing in a short-term war, moving in preparation for a long-term war with more conciliatory methods." However, on the other hand, it gave the indirect impression that the National Teachers' Union has "matured" over the last half year and "they are really professional teachers."

* Visiting Student Murdered on University Campus

* Impact on Student Movements

902C0037A Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
18 Oct 89 p 3

[Article by Yun Sung-yong: "Problems Which Will Ensue From the Yonsei University Case: Violence Resulting in Death Creates a Stir on University Campuses; This Blot on Student Movements Will Make Them Defensive for Now; Paranoid Delusion of Persecution Through Surveillance Was the Cause; the Case Will Provide Ammunition for Controversy Over Planted Public Security Agents"]

[Text] The shock waves are ever widening from the case in which Yonsei University students inflicted bodily injuries which resulted in death on Sol In-chong, 20, a Tongyang Institute of Technology student.

Amid mounting voices of condemnation that the act of violence resulting in death committed on a school campus cannot be pardoned for whatever reason, the shock within and without the campuses is bound to cause aftershocks to the inner circles of the college activist groups.

Students in general and student activists in particular are at a loss because the monstrous act of violence has taken place while people are still suffering from the nightmare of the Tongui University case in Pusan. Naturally, voices demanding self-reflection on acts of violence and excessiveness, and criticizing these acts are bound to become louder and louder.

Student activists admit that "it is clearly a mistake to have caused death to a youth of the same generation," by saying that "it is an incident caused by some students obsessed with a delusion of persecution due to continuing surveillance by authorities."

Nevertheless, despite the general atmosphere of self-reflection, we can hardly say that room for rekindling the controversy over the question of whether or not there was campus surveillance has been completely removed.

Now that the victim, Sol, is dead, no one is sure that a police investigation will be able to ascertain whether or not he actually acted as a public security agent. But what has been brought to light so far indicates that the students who committed the act of violence and the family of the victim are making acutely conflicting claims.

Before surrendering themselves to the police, the students visited the office of the Catholic Committee for Justice and Peace, where they prepared a seven-page written confession. In this confession, they said "Sol confessed that he had acted as a planted public security agent," and claimed that at first Sol denied the fact that he was a phony Yonsei University student, but after one or two beatings, he revealed his true identity, bit by bit, and this led to a gradually increased degree of violence."

The students claimed in their written confession that they were sure that Sol was a planted agent on the following grounds:

- Sol stole a library card on 5 October and forged his identity as "Song Song-il, freshman in the Theological Department," and then joined the "Cartoon Lovers" circle.
- Subsequently, he had appeared in the school every day until 12 October, spying on the memos and notes of other students, often making extremely radical remarks uncommon for a freshman.
- In the course of questioning, Sol confessed that he was inducted by one Sim, a (35-year old) member of the Agency for National Security Planning (ANSP), through his high school classmate named Pak Chae-sin, and informed on Circle Chairman Yi Chu-sik, (21, junior majoring in applied statistics).

But Sol's relatives and friends deny that he was a planted agent saying, "Sol was an introvert and his IQ was 80 and his academic achievements were very poor—he

could not possibly be a planted agent in view of the low level of his intellectual capacity."

Thanks to the intense fervor of his father, a plasterer, and his mother, a wallpaper worker, for their son's education, Sol entered a college along with his three brothers. But according to his family and friends, he got his right-hand fingers maimed at a flour mill when he was young, and he was not only physically handicapped but also had a severe case of stuttering; he had so many behavioral peculiarities that he was not in a position to be a planted agent.

Stating that "no leader of the student council was involved in this incident," a senior official of the Yonsei University Student Council commented that "this seems to be a blunder committed by some students who became oversensitive following the recent case of a Kungmin University student who was threatened with being buried alive unless he became a planted agent in the university."

On 28 August Kim Chong-han said at the Christian Hall in Yonji-tong, Chongno-ku, Seoul: "I was kidnaped by a military investigative authority and they tortured me by going through the motion of burying me alive, forcing me to reveal the whereabouts of the former Kungmin University Student Newspaper editor in chief, Kim Chong-tok, (23, a senior in the English Department), a wanted man. The telephone number I was given as a contact has been confirmed as that of a military investigation agency." However, a counter suit has been filed and the whole truth about this case has not emerged yet.

With the four successive cases of confinement of phony university students which occurred on the Seoul National University campus between 17 and 27 September 1984, planted agents on campuses became a major issue. But since then, cases of planted agents have occurred only sporadically.

In those days nine students, including Yu Si-min (25, a junior economics major), chairman of the council of reinstituted Seoul University students, adjudging a retreater Yim Sin-hyon, 19, and three others to be planted agents, confined them in the students' hall, where the offenders beat them up. Because of this incident, the offenders were the first to be punished by the judicial authorities after the measures for campus autonomy had been implemented.

Prior to this incident, in the early days of the Fifth Republic, student activists forcibly inducted into the military service were put on "a greening project" sponsored by the Defense Security Command (DSC), and this project stirred the suspicion that it might have been intended to turn these draftees into planted agents. This project became a subject of discussion during the National Assembly hearings on the Fifth Republic, but the whole truth did not emerge.

Student activists claim that "one way of planting agents is to force those repeatedly found guilty of crimes and student activists to work as informers by taking advantage of their weaknesses, and another way is to have plainclothesmen and teachers conduct surveillance."

Materials recently submitted to the National Assembly for inspection into government operations revealed how police used college students as informers, thus causing a political controversy. According to the materials submitted to the National Assembly Legislation and Judiciary Committee by the Kwangju District Public Prosecutors' Office, the public security division of the South Cholla Provincial Police Headquarters persuaded So, a Honam University physical education major, and to work for their side and made them so-called "watchers" paid to inform on campus activist groups.

At any rate, it is clear that the student activist groups will be put on the defensive due to the latest incident.

But as was the case with the past student movements, if the public security authorities launch an active offensive, highlighting the "acts of violence" committed by students, it is possible that the students will counter by making an issue of the "cases of planted agents" with their backs to the wall.

Therefore, in order to avoid repeating the same thing, it is necessary for students to refrain from acts of violence and for the authorities concerned to make efforts to clear up the suspicions about planted agents on campuses.

* Columnist Blasts Crime

902C0037B Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 18 Oct 89 p 5

[Article by Columnist Hong Sa-chung: "Student Killed by 'Blunder'"]

[Text] **Ununderstandable Act**

One day in 1943 a final meeting was held to discuss method for a wholesale massacre of the Jews. The meeting was attended by nearly 20 high-ranking German officials including Eichmann. As soon as the heated discussion of transportation problems, methods of execution, how to dispose of corpses, and other details was over, the officials held a party. Champagne and wine glasses were passed out, and some of the officials played Beethoven on the piano. None of them felt an iota of remorse for having planned the most cruel genocide.

This episode is cited by many historians as an example each time they speak of the cruelty of the Nazis. One psychologist said that people can become heartless when the faces of the sufferers are not in sight. This school of thinking insists that the massacre of Jews by the Nazis is the greatest of all exceptions to humaneness.

However, we know that all people, not only the Nazis, harbor in the depth of their hearts the viciousness that allows them to perpetrate such a horrendous act. Human beings have one aspect of nature which makes them feel a queer sense of pleasure when they see with their own

eyes the faces of the sufferers. Particularly at a time when violence is a common occurrence as it is now, people become insensitive to violence itself.

Human beings can be extremely cruel. No matter how stubbornly we may try to insist that we are reasonable animals, one of the greatest forces that tries to control us is the impulse for murder and destruction. No matter how hard we may try to be gentle and good, we cannot but deny the presence of Cain's blood flowing in our veins. The case of violence committed only a couple of days ago by Yonsei University students which resulted in the death of an alleged planted agent supports this truth in a more heart-rending way than any other cases.

According to the students involved, it was noon on 15 October when they confirmed the death of the student they were questioning. It was nearly 24 hours afterward that they confessed to two priests at the office of the Society of Catholic Priests for the Realization of Justice [as published]. How could they have concealed such a terrible act for so long? But, this is not beyond comprehension. Most probably, they did not intend to kill the student at the beginning. They may have intended only to rough him up short of killing him.

It is certain that they were at a loss, frightened by the unexpected turn of events. This is borne out by the fact that although they visited the church at 9 in the morning, they met the priests at 12 o'clock, 3 hours afterward. They must have pondered how to get themselves off the hook. They must have thought of ways to conceal completely what they had done and behave as if nothing had happened. All this is understandable.

But what is totally beyond comprehension is their behavior during the 8 and ½ hours from 3:30 in the morning—when they say they laid the dangling body of the victim of their torture on the sofa in a room unattended—until noon. When they completed the "investigation," the victim must have been on the brink of death. As of this moment, with an autopsy of the corpse not yet completed, it is difficult to ascertain the accurate time of the death. When Sol was moved to another room and left there unattended, he may have been dead already.

Enthralled by Violence

No matter how cruel one may be and how completely one has lost his reason, one is bound to suffer remorse after the moment of anger passes and fear sets in. But all of them returned home and slept as if nothing had happened. One of them snooped around for a brief moment at dawn. He said that at that time Sol appeared to be asleep. Even if we trust his words, what may be called their folly or insensibility in having left Sol unattended is beyond comprehension.

What is all the more incomprehensible is the behavior of the four students who were present during the entire time while the two other fellow students beat the victim with square wooden bars. The two students who did the beating may have been so enthralled by the pleasure of beating as to lose their faculty of judgement completely. But the other students who stood by must have been able to preserve their coolness as bystanders to a certain extent. They must have fully anticipated that the frenzied beating could lead to death.

They must have been able to feel full human pity from the writhing agonies of Sol, from his cries in the throes of death. They must have had felt some repugnance to the cruelty of binding the limbs of a person with nylon cords and pounding the helpless man with square wooden bars. They should have felt such repugnance. They also should have felt even a modicum of suspicion as to what could possibly justify such a horrid act of violence.

At least, they should have shown that they were different from those who had tortured Pak Chong-chol to death or those who inflicted sexual torture on a suspect. If they had done so, one of them at least would have stopped his fellow students who were mercilessly brandishing the square wooden bars and thus have prevented the "blunder" of having deprived a youth of his life. But all of the students were intoxicated by the pleasure of violence.

The students who have surrendered themselves to the authorities are unanimous in claiming that Sol, whom they murdered, was a planted agent on the campus. Sol may actually have been a planted agent, or their confession may be a false one forced by torture. But, supposing Sol was indeed a planted agent, nothing could have justified their beating him to death, and it would not be an extenuating circumstance leading to the crime of these students.

No Excuse

What we see in these students is not the features of real revolutionaries dedicated to building a democratic society free of violence but the features of the anarchists enchanted by the diabolic power of violence as described by Sartre. For them, ideology, justice, and revolution are all nothing but a veil to cover up their true colors as human beings completely immersed in violence.

When a match is lighted before a new born baby for the first time, his eyes shine with unusual luster. One psychologist said this is because the instinct for violence and destruction is awakened in him through the stimulation of the red flame. I am sure that the university students in question must have been swayed by a similar instinct as they watched Sol writhing in agony each time he was pounded with a square wooden bar. There can be no excuse whatsoever for what they did. Their behavior completely exceeded the bounds of normal social tolerance toward "college students."

Just as I do not believe that all public security officials are like those who tortured Pak Chong-chol to death or those who inflicted sexual torture on a suspect, I do not believe that all radical students are like these university students who killed Sol. And I hope that his death will not result in significantly undermining future wholesome

student movements, which naturally would occur. However, for future student movements to enjoy popular support and become truly the motive force for the progress of history, they should not be biased by violence as they have been thus far. This is because violence ends only in the denial of the raison d'etre of student movements.

Economic Crisis Seen by Majority Surveyed

SK2912073489 Seoul YONHAP in English 0726 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—More than 80 percent of South Koreans feel the economy is in crisis and demand stable prices and industrial relations in 1990 be made an economic priority, the Korea Gallup Poll announced Friday.

Alarmed by signs of weakening competitiveness, 80.8 percent of the 1,500 adults surveyed said the economy has entered a crisis. The sense of fear ran particularly high among academics (87.9 percent), the wealthy (84.9 percent), the self-employed (84.4 percent) and city dwellers (84.8 percent). Nine in 10 saw the current recession as not a temporary or cyclic phenomenon, but as a structural problem. The economy is projected to grow 6.6 percent this year, down from 12.2 percent in 1988, 12.8 percent in 1987 and 12.9 percent in 1986.

More than half blamed radical labor groups and pay raises for the slump, while 28.4 percent fingered real estate speculation and other nonproductive means of increasing profits. Hourly pay soared 22.7 percent in 1987 and is expected to jump 26.2 percent this year.

Respondents to the nationwide poll said the economic policies should focus on stablizing prices (41.1 percent), stablizing industrial relations (30.6 percent) and stamping out speculation (11.8 percent). Four in 10 said the economy will attain about the same growth in 1990 as this year while three foresaw a worse economic performance. Korea will be a leading world economic force no later than the year 2010, according to 52.9 percent.

The survey found 72 percent of Koreans perceive a "severe" gap between haves and have-nots and nearly half attributed this to land speculation and other nonproductive undertakings.

Half called for "fair" distribution of wealth to be the top policy while four in 10 urged overall economic expansion. A desire for better distribution was prevalent among academics (67.2 percent), students (67.2 percent) and white-collar workers (61 percent).

Further on Poll Results

SK2412025389 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] Solutions to political problems were cited as a more urgent task than economic matters for the pickup of economic activities, according to a poll conducted by Korea Gallup Polls at the request of the Culture-Information Ministry.

Thirty-six percent of 1,500 persons surveyed replied that political questions including democratic reforms and liquidation of the Chon Tu-hwan regime legacies should be settled first of all to turn the downward economy around.

About 32 percent cited economic problems including commodity prices and labor-management disputes, while 24 percent pointed to social problems such as wide income disparity,housing shortages and excessive consumptive mood, said the poll released yesterday.

Nearly 70 percent think that labor disputes are spiraling in a "dangerous" way, echoing mounting criticism by the government and management of workers' demands for wage raises and their worry about strikes in the spring.

However, about 42 percent foresaw that labor disputes would be lessened next year, 17 percent more than those who believe the labor problem would deteriorate.

Six out of 10 feel that employees are not treated well by their employers.

Over 55 percent said that wage raises were surpassed by price rises in the year, while 18 percent think the raises outgrew price hikes.

Thirty-eight percent insisted on higher wage increases next year than this year's average growth of 18 percent.

Eleven More People Infected by AIDS-Tainted Blood

SK2412015989 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Dec 89 p 3

[Text] Eleven more persons are confirmed to have been given transfusions of AIDS-tainted blood in the nation besides the 46-year-old housewife who tested positive for AIDS this week after receiving a blood transfusion.

The Health-Social Affairs Minister, checking whether the nation's 70 confirmed AIDS virus carriers have donated blood in the past, has found that blood of six of them was transfused into 11 persons, a ministry spokesman said.

Five out of them died of diseases not related to AIDS and the rest tested negative for AIDS in an antibody test to HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), which causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome in the human body, he said.

The six persons, proved healthy, received the AIDS-contaminated blood donations from November 1984 to November 1988, the ministry said.

However, the ministry will continue to test them every six months, adding there is almost no possibility of them contracting the killer disease as they tested negative in antibody tests conducted six to 54 months after being given the controversial blood transfusion.

The "window period" before anti-bodies to HIV are formed, during which it is impossible to determine AIDS infection, lasts only 6-14 weeks, the ministry said.

Saying that persons vulnerable to AIDS such as homosexuals are increasingly donating blood to see if they have AIDS, the ministry is launching campaigns to curb their blood donation.

Burma

Polish Ambassador Calls on Elections Commission

BK0301150590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] His Excellency Mr Lucjan Mieczkowski, Polish ambassador to Burma, called on U Ba Htay, chairman of the Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections, and Commission members U Saw Kyar Doe, U San Maung, Saya Chai, and U Kyaw Nyunt at the Office of the Elections Commission at No 94, Natmauk Road, Bahan Township, Yangon [Rangoon], at 1000 on 3 January.

Replying to questions raised by the ambassador regarding the elections, the commission chairman and members said that so far, all of the work relating to the multiparty democratic elections have been completed according to schedule. People who wish to be candidates for the People's Assembly elections have been submitting their candidacy forms to the township zone subcommissions, and as of 1000 today a total of 1,423 people belonging to 75 political parties and organizations and 45 independents have submitted their applications. Of the total, 142 belong to over 20 political parties of the nationalities. Candidacy forms are being accepted until 1400 today, and we hope to receive over 2,000 applications.

The candidacy forms will be scrutinized and decided upon, in accordance with the Elections Law and By-laws, by township zone subcommissions between 5 and 9 January 1990.

As of now, about 70 percent of the work needed for the elections has been completed. Since the only work left to be done is the printing of ballot cards, the multiparty elections will be held according to schedule. Election subcommissions are meanwhile doing their work without any bias. The Commission has issued instructions to the subcommissions to do their work and make decisions in strict accordance with the law without any fear.

The ambassador said: several newspapers published in Bangkok have been reporting that because restraints have been placed on some political parties, the elections cannot be fair and free. However, after meeting the Commission members I have come to learn the truth that no political party is under restraint.

In replying to the questions raised by the commission members, the ambassador said that there were only three major political parties and a few smaller organizations under these parties in Poland. The law governing the formation and registration of political parties and the usage of funds will soon be prescribed.

As Poland has moved away from a single-party to a multiparty system, it has also shifted away from a centrally controlled planned economy to a market economy. Commodity prices rose by about 900 percent and inflation rose in the transition period of 1989. This is being improved. Some events that took place in Poland and Burma in the transition period are similar, he said.

Commission members later cordially answered further questions posed about the elections by the ambassador.

Saw Maung Message Commemorates Independence Day

BK0401042990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0130 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Excerpts] A ceremony was held at the People's Square in Yangon [Rangoon] this morning to observe the 42d Independence Day anniversary with four meaningful political objectives—for every citizen to lend his hand in defending and safeguarding the nation's independence and sovereignty; for every citizen to cooperate with the Defense Services to prevent the union's disintegration; for every citizen to work hand in hand with the Defense Services in exposing and smashing the destructive elements; for every citizen to strive conscientiously toward establishing law and order and peace and tranquillity so that fair and free multiparty democratic general elections can be held successfully. [passage omitted]

A message of felicitations to the 42d Independence Day anniversary ceremony from General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, was read at the ceremony by Brigadier General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council and chairman of the 42d Independence Day Celebrations Committee. The message reads:

I cordially and respectfully greet the people of all national races on this auspicious day—4 January 1990—on which the Union of Myanma [Burma] regained its independence 42 years ago. For thousands of years, our country stood tall with its own kings and as an independent, sqvereign nation among the countries of the world. But, the avaricious British imperialists waged wars of aggression against the Myanma nation and took Rakhine and Tanintharyi in 1824, lower Myanma, including Bago Division, in 1852, and the whole country in 1886. Thus, they turned the entire country into a colony and enslaved all of the people.

In the 19th century, imperialists waged wars of aggression in various parts of the world to expand their empires. In our country, the unity of the national races at the time was not strong and consolidated, the nation itself—under the old feudalism—was lagging behind the times in all fields of life, and the Defense Services, which must defend and protect the state, lacked powerful and effective weapons and were not as strong as was demanded by the times. So, the nation fell under the iron heels of avaricious imperialism.

After making an analytical study of the cause and effect of these events, we must draw the lesson that if the state

is weak, it can be enslaved. As such, we must always be vigilant in order to see that our nation never again becomes a colony.

In the 20th century, colonialists do not blatantly commit armed aggression on small nations and occupy them as in the old days. Rather, they employ the method of breeding minions by using social, economic, cultural, as well as ideological means so that smaller nations fall under their influence, think highly of them, and become subservient. We must defend and protect our nation with greater caution and vigilance so that our nation never becomes a colony in any guise.

In defending and safeguarding the independence of the state, it is of utmost importance for us to be strong and powerful. In order to make ourselves strong and powerful, the primary thing is for us to be united and consolidated so that the strength within the country is great. In our Myanma nation, which is made up of various national races, enhancing and strengthening the solidarity of all of the national races in order to prevent the union's disintegration, and defending and safeguarding the sovereignty of the state with one's own life are a national and political duty that all independence-loving citizens must carry out as a first priority.

At the same time, we must strive to bring about development in the social sphere, such as in education, health, and culture, while building up the economic structure along modern lines in order to achieve progress and development so as to be able to raise the people's standard of living.

All of the nation's citizens know that the State Law and Order Restoration Council timely saved the nation when it was in disorder and on the verge of disintegration, and has been striving to stabilize the situation. At present, the State Law and Order Restoration Council is implementing its four main tasks, and the fourth task—the date for holding fair and free multiparty democratic general elections—is drawing near. At such a time, it is vital for all citizens as well as political parties to prevent the outbreak of disturbances and insurrection which will harm the flourishing of genuine democracy and the successful holding of fair and free general elections, the resurgence of anarchical tendencies that go against the law, and the coming into existence of problems that could sow suspicion among the national races and cause the disintegration of national solidarity. We must take special care to refrain from saying or writing things that will hamper the holding of fair and free multiparty democratic general elections.

On this auspicious and noble day marking the 42d anniversary of independence, I emphatically urge all citizens to conscientiously and loyally strive to ensure the state's independence in perpetuity.

Signed: General Saw Maung, State Law and Order Restoration Council. [passage omitted]

Commission Deregisters More Parties 29 Dec

BK2912150989 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanma [Burma] has issued Announcement No 356, dated 29 December 1989—the 3rd day of the waxing moon of Pyatho, 1351 Burmese era. The announcement reads:

Subject: Deregistration of Political Parties

1. The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanma, upon receipt of applications for registration from political parties, permitted their registration in accordance with the Political Parties Law.

2. However, following requests from several political parties for the annulment of their registrations in light of unanimous decisions made by the Central Executive Committees concerned, the Commission has annulled the registration of the following parties as of 29 December 1989:
A. The Peace and Economic Development Party of the Union of Burma, of No 5/1 U Gwai Road, Sanchaung Township, Yangon [Rangoon] Division. It was registered on 23 October 1988 under Announcement No 41.
B. Democracy Reformation League, DRL, of No 2 Khaymarthi Road, Michaungkan-3 ward, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Division. It was registered on 11 November 1988 under Announcement No 115.
C. Republican Party, of No 47 27th Street, Pabedan Township, Yangon Division. It was registered on 13 November 1988 under Announcement No 126.
D. National Democratic Peace and Solidarity Party, NDPSP, of No 203, between 36th and 37th streets, 75th Road, Setkyarnwezin ward, Mandalay, Mandalay Division. It was registered on 22 November 1988 under Announcement No 145.

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

Cambodia

Chea Sim on Foreign Military Aid to Pol Pot

BK0201033990 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0236 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 1—Chea Sim, chairman both of the State of Cambodia's National Assembly and the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland, received on Saturday Mr Chhang Song [former information minister in Lon Nol's regime], president of the "Samakom Khemarak Sangkrous," an association of Khmer residents in the United States, now on a visit to his motherland.

Speaking to his guest, Chairman Chea Sim recalled the hardship and suffering of the Cambodian people under

the reign of Pol Pot clique. He said that the Cambodian people turned their hatred for the genocidal clique into a strong determination to defend and rebuild their country.

He further said that the Cambodian state had always encouraged every effort for the restoration of socio-economic infrastructure and traditional culture and respected the people's freedom of belief.

Chairman Chea Sim also briefed his guest on the process of reform, including the policy toward the peasants and land ownership which, he said, has won broad support from the working people across the country.

On the search for a political solution to the Cambodian conflict, Chairman Chea Sim said that the State of Cambodia had manifested its goodwill and constructive stance. He denounced some countries for continuing military aid to the Pol Potist criminals to commit further crimes against the Cambodian people.

He also expressed profound thanks to the "Samakom Khemarak Sangkrous" and other progressive overseas Khmer associations for their active contributions to national reconstruction.

In reply, Chhang Song said that his current visit was aimed at gathering more facts and studying means and ways to make the American people better understand the goodwill of the State of Cambodia in the search for peace in the country.

Mr Chhang Song said that he would do all he could to contribute to Cambodia's national reconstruction and defence and to the prevention of the resurgence of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Forestry Cooperation Agreement Signed With SRV

BK2812053489 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0415 GMT 28 Dec 89

[Text] Phnom Penh, 28 Dec (SPK)—A document on technical and economic cooperation between the forestry services of Vietnam and Cambodia was recently completed in Phnom Penh.

The document was signed at the end of the visit of 18-21 December to Cambodia by a delegation from the Vietnamese Ministry of Forestry led by its deputy minister, Tran Hung Hieu.

Lao Justice Ministry Delegation Arrives

BK2312132889 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 23 Dec 89

[Text] Phnom Penh, 23 Dec (SPK)—A delegation of the Lao Justice Ministry led by its minister, Kou Souvannamethi, arrived in Phnom Penh on Friday [22 December] for a week-long visit to Cambodia.

It was greeted at Pochentong airport by Uk Bunchhoeun, Cambodian justice minister, and Thongsoukhon Phounsavan, Lao ambassador to Cambodia.

Delegates Visit Hun Sen; Depart

BK3012080189 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0359 GMT 30 Dec 89

[Text] Phnom Penh, 30 Dec (SPK)—Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, on Friday [29 December] morning received in Phnom Penh the visiting delegation of the Justice Ministry from Laos led by its minister, Khou Souvannamethi.

The Cambodian leader termed the delegation's visit an important contribution to strengthening the relations of solidarity and cooperation between Cambodia and Laos, particularly between the two countries' justice ministries. He informed his hosts of the current situation inside the country, particularly after the Paris international conference and the last withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. He also stressed the State of Cambodia's views on formulas recently put forward to settle the Cambodian problem.

"We are resolute in not accepting the role of the genocidal Pol Potist clique in a settlement of the Cambodian problem and we will accept the role of the United Nations only when this organization leaves Cambodia's seat vacant", specified Hun Sen.

For his part, the Lao justice minister informed Chairman Hun Sen of the results of meetings he had with officials of the Cambodian Justice Ministry to exchange views aimed at developing relations between the two peoples.

Khou Souvannamethi expressed his total support for the Cambodian people's just struggle and his conviction that the Cambodian people will score the final victory.

The same day [29 December], the Lao delegation left Phnom Penh, thus concluding a week-long visit to Cambodia.

During its stay, the delegation held meetings with Cambodian Justice Minister Uk Bunchhoeun on problems relating to bilateral cooperation. It visited the national museum, Phnom Penh City, Kandal Province, and Kompong Som City.

Hun Sen Greets New CSSR Prime Minister

BK0401114190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, recently sent a

congratulatory message to Comrade Marian Calfa on his appointment as head of the federal government of Czechoslovakia.

The message reads:

I am confident that under your leadership, the Czechoslovak people will overcome all social and political crises in the country and create all possibilities to ensure social order and security, which is an important contribution to the building of advanced socialism in Czechoslovakia. I firmly believe that the relations of comprehensive cooperation between our two countries and peoples will further develop and become stronger.

I wish you the best of health and new successes in your mission.

Ambassador to USSR Receives Decoration

BK0201053990 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0435 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 2—Rafik Nishanov, president of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union has bestowed in Kremlin "the People's Friendship" Order on Hor Nam Hong, Cambodian ambassador to the Soviet Union. On the occasion, Rafik Nishanov highly valued the Cambodian diplomat's efforts at consolidating and developing the friendship and multiform cooperation between the two countries. He also praised the remarkable achievements made by the Cambodian people over the past years which, according to him, have contributed to enhancing the people's power of Cambodia.

After having informed the Cambodian ambassador of the fruits of the policy of "perestroyka" in his country, Rafik Nishanov said that the assistance and support of the CPSU and the government and people of the Soviet Union rendered to the Cambodian people in their national reconstruction and defense were part of the Soviet Union's policy.

For his part, Hor Nam Hong expressed thanks to the CPSU and the government and people of the Soviet Union for their valuable assistance to the Cambodian people in their national reconstruction as well as in their efforts at finding out a fair and equitable solution to the Cambodian problem and achieving the national reconciliation.

He expressed his firm conviction that the ties of friendship and multiform cooperation between the two countries would be further consolidated and developed.

Chea Soth Receives Japanese Cultural Delegates

BK0401124390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] On the morning of 3 January Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, granted an audience at the office of the Council of Ministers to members of the Japanese Cultural Research Delegation headed by Ishigawa Yuzaki, professor and rector of Sofia University, Tokyo.

Speaking on that occasion, Ishigawa Yuzaki expressed deep thanks to the party and government of our State of Cambodia for facilitating the delegation's visit to Cambodia. He said that it was the third visit of the Japanese delegation. The members of the delegation are cultural research experts.

He said that the Japanese people expected to visit the Angkor Wat temples in the future.

On the outcome of his visit to Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, Ishigawa Yazaki said he and his party had closely studied the structural and construction techniques of Angkor Wat and would compile a document on the subject.

Ishigawa Yuzaki said that despite the lack of formal relations between Japan and Cambodia, upon their return home he and the rest of the delegation would made a detailed report to the Japanese Government and people dealing with the real situation of the State of Cambodia and would see to it that friendly relations between the Japanese and Cambodian Governments and peoples would develop and become official, especially in the field of culture and science.

In his remarks, Comrade Chea Soth informed the delegation in detai of the restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia, especially in the cultural field which was destroyed by the Pol Potists in the years under their rule. Comrade Chea Soth stressed: Despite the fact that my country is still suffering from war because the reactionary Khmer groups still attempt to return to power and wreak havoc in the country, since the 1st year after liberation, the Cambodian party, government, and people have continued to preserve, restore, and repair the Angkor Wat temples in cooperation with the Indian Government and people. He expressed the hope that through this visit and research trip, in the future the Japanese Government and people will pay greater attention to making contributions to the restoration and rebuilding of Cambodia's Angkor Wat temples.

848 'Defectors' Return to Kompong Thom in 1989

BK0401083390 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0358 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 4 January (SPK)—In 1989, 848 defectors returned to Kompong Thom Province, 150 km north of Phnom Penh, say local authorities.

They were 471 Pol Potist, 275 Sihanoukists, and 102 Son Sann soldiers, who brought with them 471 assorted firearms and a quantity of other war material.

Battles in Northwestern Province Reported

BK0401075890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Station correspondent's interview with the deputy military commander of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province; date not given—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] During 1989, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province launched various activities against the enemies. We put 3,627 enemy soldiers out of action. Of these, we killed 516; wounded 251; captured 200 prisoners; arrested 287 planted enemy agents, 16 informers, and 1 ringleader; and forced 36 to surrender. We also seized 2,541 assorted weapons and 448 assorted mines, destroyed 44 temporary enemy shelters, and seized 5 telegraph machines, 3 71-C radio sets, 4 walkie-talkies, 27 radio receivers, 10 recorders, and some other war materiel. [passage omitted]

As a result of the proselytization campaign in 1989, 1,678 enemy officers and men surrendered to the authorities, including Pol Potists, [Son Sann's] Sereikans, and [Sihanouk's] Moulinakans, bringing with them 1,638 assorted weapons and some war materiel. [passage omitted]

Report on Military Situation 9-16 Dec

BK2712070289 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] Phnom Penh, 27 December (SPK)—From 9 to 16 December, the opposition forces fired many artillery shells on some border areas of Battambang and Banteay Meanchey Provinces. On 10-11 December alone, the enemy fired 250-300 shells on the area of Anlung Veng and Hills 200 and 300.

In the same period, the Cambodian People's Armed Forces put 126 enemy elements out of action, including 113 killed, 4 captured, and 9 who were forced to surrender. We seized 39 firearms and a quantity of war materiel.

Firm Defense of Bos Sbov Commune Reported

BK3012054689 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Bos Sbov is one of 13 communes in the Sereisaophoan District of Banteay Meanchey Province. It is a place the enemies have tried to seize for use as a strategic position. The three Cambodian reactionary groups have resorted to every means and mobilized their forces to attack Bos Sbov on several occasions.

However, due to the fact that they have closely united and employed combined measures and combined forces, our Armed Forces have vigorously counterattacked the enemies and won brilliant victories. As a matter of fact, on 22 December 1989, our Armed Forces vigorously fought the enemies for 4 hours and firmly defended Bos Sbov. Following this fierce combat, our forces killed 16 enemies, wounded 25 others, and seized an M-82 and a large quantity of war materiel.

These feats by our Armed Forces are attributable to the resolute will to fight displayed by our cadres and combatants, who have always been vigilant and genuinely patriotic. Their struggle is for the noble cause of national defense. They are determined to continue firmly defending Bos Sbov's strategic position, thus preventing the enemies from gaining a foothold there.

Sihanouk Cautioned on Alliance With Pol Pot

BK0401101090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Jan 90

[SPK commentary: "The Pol Potists Plan To Do Away With the Forces of Sihanouk and Son Sann in Order To Grab Power"]

[Text] It is already known that Samdech Sihanouk has waged war against the Cambodian people under the pretext of opposing the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia. Now, all the Vietnamese volunteer troops have been repatriated. And recently the State of Cambodia has made many political concessions with the intention of ending the conflict and bloodshed in the country. We do not understand at all why Samdech Sihanouk continues to maintain an unconditional alliance with Pol Pot.

The entire Cambodian people under the leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party have now been living in peace and happiness for more than 10 years. Why then does Samdech Sihanouk want to force the Cambodian people to accept back in power the genocidal Pol Pot group that they despise and have already toppled?

The Cambodian people have been forced to withstand the undeclared war of the three reactionary Khmer groups which began a large-scale offensive in an attempt to overthrow the State of Cambodia just 3 days after the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. However, 3 months have passed and the State of Cambodia continues to stand firmly on its feet. The Cambodian Armed Forces and people as a whole are holding aloft their combat spirit and combat readiness to protect and maintain peace for the people.

After the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from the entire country, according to still incomplete figures, our Armed Forces of all categories in cooperation with the people have fought the enemy and won remarkable successes. We defeated 1,993 enemy soldiers, including 1,105 killed, 767 captured, and 129 taken prisoner. We seized 1,609 assorted weapons and a large quantity of war materiel. Just a few days ago, heavy fighting broke out at the border near Pailin and Thmar Puok regions. According to still incomplete figures, the three reactionary Khmer groups suffered an additional loss of more than 300 soldiers, including a colonel and a major.

Not only have the three groups rejected the peace plan proposed by the government of the State of Cambodia, but they have sought by all means to resume the massacre of our Cambodian people. In order to protect the lives of our people, we have no other choice but to take up arms and fight, thus asserted Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, in a recent interview with the French magazine LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR.

In fact, many Sereikans and Moulinakans [Son Sann's and Sihanouk's fighters] have been killed or captured because they usually launch large-scale offensives. whereas the Pol Potists protect their forces and take advantage of the other two groups. A Khmer Rouge commander in Pailin said: Our combatants are the most precious of rubies. We protect as many of our men as we can.

Sat San, logistics chief of the 58th Regiment of Pol Pot's 802d Division, who reported himself to authorities in Kompong Thom Province last October, clearly emphasized that in the secret study documents circulated within the internal circles of the Pol Potist cadres, Pol Pot's Defense Minister Son Sen indicated that for the time being it is necessary to join the forces of Sihanouk and Son Sann. But in the future, he said, we must smash these two forces in order to grab power. If so, can one accept the genocidal Pol Pot gang?

Sihanouk on PRC Opposition to UN Trusteeship

BK0401133490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1305 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Bangkok, Jan 4 (AFP)—Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk has said that China and the Beijing-supported Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction oppose a United Nations trusteeship over Cambodia. The prince also warned in a position paper circulated by his office here Thursday that insistence by Vietnam and the Hanoi-installed Phnom Penh government that the Khmer Rouge be excluded from a settlement could lead to Khmer Rouge's return to power in Cambodia.

Placing war-torn Cambodia under U.N. trusteeship is a key element in an Australian peace plan. Canberra's plan also proposes that Cambodia's U.N. seat, held by Prince Sihanouk's guerrilla alliance—the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK)—be left vacant.

The prince, Cambodia's former monarch, said that he was in favour of a vacancy of the U.N. seat "on condition that everybody agrees to the simultaneous dismantling of CGDK and the illegal state of Cambodia... and its replacement by a U.N. trusteeship." "But, the idea of placing Cambodia under U.N. trusteeship is not accepted by the Khmer Rouge and China," Prince Sihanouk said.

The prince charged that the Phnom Penh government was attempting to "hoodwink international opinion" by pretending to favour a U.N. trusteeship while at the same time aiming at retaining power.

"If the Khmer Rouge were to win the war in Cambodia and return to power, responsibility would rest without any doubt with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Hun Sen regime and their Western supporters," the prince said. Mr. Hun Sen is the prime minister of the Cambodian Government set up by Hanoi 11 years ago after invading Vietnamese forces had toppled a Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge regime.

The Khmer Rouge, blamed for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during its fanatical Marxist rule between 1975-79, now forms the military backbone of a guerrilla alliance nominally headed by Prince Sihanouk. The uneasy coalition joins the Khmer Rouge with two non-communist groups loyal to Prince Sihanouk and former conservative Prime Minister Son Sann. Both of the non-communist groups have repeatedly condemned the Khmer Rouge for its human rights record, but have also insisted that unless the faction was brought into a settlement, war could not be stopped in Cambodia.

In his position paper, Prince Sihanouk, who is currently staying in Beijing, blamed the Phnom Penh government for the continuation of the war. "It is the Hun Sen regime which has rejected and continues to reject all political, peaceful, reasonable and democratic solutions. The Hun Sen regime leaves no other alternative but the continuation of the war," he said.

Phnom Penh has rejected a demand by the guerrilla alliance that the Khmer Rouge be included alongside representatives of the other Cambodian factions in a quadripartite, interim coalition government to be set up within the framework of an agreement ending the war. "With their rejection of any suggestion that the Khmer Rouge take part, on an equal footing with all other Cambodian groups, in the peace process and their opposition to allowing the United Nations to disarm all Cambodian factions, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Hun Sen regime and their Western supporters are forcing the Khmer Rouge to continue fighting indefinitely," Prince Sihanouk said.

The prince did not identify the "Western supporters" of Hanoi and Phnom Penh. A number of Western countries have recently made contact with the Phnom Penh government, which is formally recognized by only the Soviet Union, its allies and India.

Sihanouk Interviewed on China, Khmer Rouge

PM0401092490 Paris LE FIGARO in French 30-31 Dec 89 p 6

[Interview with former Cambodian head of state Norodom Sihanouk by Thierry Desjardins in Beijing; date not given]

[Text] LE FIGARO: The offensive launched by the resistance on 1 October has so far had limited success. Do you really think that you can win against Hun Sen's troops, their tanks, and their heavy artillery?

Norodom Sihanouk: We know that we will never win this war by force and, moreover, there will never be either victors or vanquished in it. Hun Sen will never be able to defeat the resistance and the latter will never be able to win by arms. We therefore need a political solution, and I have always said that. But first the Vietnamese must go.

LE FIGARO: They have gone, nobody now doubts that.

Norodom Sihanouk: International monitoring is necessary. However, they reject that because they are still there, disguised as Cambodians. It is the Vietnamese who are driving the tanks and piloting the planes. The Khmer Rouge have apparently taken Vietnamese prisoners since the so-called withdrawal. And then there are more than 1 million Vietnamese civilian colonists occupying our land. Those who were not there before the Vietnamese invasion of 1979 must go.

They must go under UN control. They are illegal immigrants. Mrs Thatcher is sending back the illegal Vietnamese refugees in Hong Kong, do not ask us to be more democratic than Mrs Thatcher.

LE FIGARO: Let us suppose there are no longer any Vietnamese....

Norodom Sihanouk: In that case, free elections must be held. And to ensure that, it must not be Hun Sen's illegal regime which organizes them. I proposed a quadripartite provisional government. Hun Sen refused. So, I am proposing that Cambodia be entrusted to the United Nations, either for 1 year or even for just 3 months.

All the existing forces would remain where they are, without moving. The two governments—Hun Sen's government and the resistance government—would be disbanded.

There would be free elections. The elected deputies would adopt a constitution and the president elected by the people, be it Hun Sen, Sihanouk, Son Sann, or Khieu Samphan, would rebuild the country. The others, defeated in the elections, would accept their defeat as my friend Chirac accepted it when my friend Mitterrand won.

LE FIGARO: Do you think that the Khmer Rouge would accept it?

Norodom Sihanouk: They have solemnly pledged to do so in writing.

I therefore call on them to keep their pledge. There is nothing else to be done. And China has pledged to respect the verdict of the ballot boxes. I will test it.

LE FIGARO: But Hun Sen refuses to accept the United Nations while Cambodia's seat at the United Nations is occupied by the resistance.

Norodom Sihanouk: If it accepts the UN mandate, I am prepared to agree to Cambodia's seat being declared vacant during the next General Assembly.

LE FIGARO: But China has already rejected that idea of a UN mandate and is adhering to the proposal of a provisional quadripartite government.

Norodom Sihanouk: Yes, I know. I am trapped by that too. Without China, I cannot do anything. It is China which gives me the few weapons we have. It is China which houses and feeds me. I cannot go anywhere else other than to my friend Kim Il-song in North Korea. But, if I quarrel with China, Kim Il-song will be very embarrassed. The West is doing nothing for me.

LE FIGARO: The West criticizes you for your alliance with the Khmer Rouge who massacred half of your family and several million Cambodians.

Norodom Sihanouk: That is unfair. First, there is no alliance. I am not the Khmer Rouge's leader.

I am only the head of the Sihanoukist National Army. Sihanouk and all his supporters are 500 percent opposed to the Khmer Rouge. If the Vietnamese leave tomorrow and if the Khmer Rouge start to repeat their actions, we will be the first to wage war on them with Son Sann's supporters and perhaps even with Hun Sen. We are all prepared to die against the Khmer Rouge. Things must be quite clear.

Second, the Americans say that the Khmer Rouge are unacceptable. But it was the Americans who maintained the Khmer Rouge at the United Nations from 1979 to 1982 as Cambodia's legal representatives before I accepted the presidency of Democratic Kampuchea. And, just 1 month ago, I received intelligence informing me that there were U.S. advisers in the Khmer Rouge camps in Thailand, notably in Site B camp. The CIA men are teaching the Khmer Rouge human rights! The CIA wants to turn tigers into kittens! Finally, it is very easy to sit in a Paris drawing room and say that the Khmer Rouge must be hounded out. But they are there. I wholeheartedly applaud the proposal by [French Secretary of State for Humanitarian Action] Bernard Kouchner to form an international brigade to come to fight the Khmer Rouge. I am sure that His Excellency Bernard Kouchner will fight like a lion and I can tell you that the Sihanoukists will help him as far as their poor resources allow.

LE FIGARO: Do you often see your allies—the Khmer Rouge, Pol Pot and the others?

Norodom Sihanouk: Their ambassadors come to play badminton with me here or in Pyongyang. When I am in Bangkok, Khieu Samphan or Son Sen request audiences with me.

I have not seen Pol Pot since 6 January 1979. I have never had the slightest contact with him since then. But I know that he is still the real Khmer Rouge leader, together with Ieng Sary, and that he lives in his headquarters somewhere between Trat and Kaoh Kong near the Gulf of Thailand. It is important to realize that nobody can defeat the Khmer Rouge. What action has the international community taken against them, even when they were in power? Nothing. And China's hackles rise as soon as the Khmer Rouge are attacked. I need China. So?

LE FIGARO: You know perfectly well that your new proposal of a UN mandate has no chance of being adopted.

Norodom Sihanouk: Yes, it is another of my dreams which will be dashed. So I say: Let us convene an international conference like the one in Paris. This time, let us not try to achieve unanimity, because we will never achieve that. But let us find a majority which agrees on a solution. Even if China is opposed to it, even if the Khmer Rouge are opposed to it. It does not matter about the fact that the Chinese shelter me: I will go elsewhere. Tell the whole world: For a peaceful solution in Cambodia, for free elections, for my country to become a free country and a democracy again, I am prepared to separate from my Chinese friends and fight the Khmer Rouge. The French leftists who have just launched a campaign against me have not understood anything.

Sihanouk Thanks Kim Il-song for Greetings

BK3112035089 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 Dec 89

["Text of reply message from Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, to His Excellency Marshal Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK, on the occasion of the 1990 New Year;" dated 23 December]

[Text] Esteemed excellency, the president and marshal of the republic:

On the occasion of the 1990 international New Year, your excellency, the beloved leader of the Korean nation and people, has kindly sent excellent greetings together with a beautiful gift to me. I would like to express my respectful and deepest gratitude to your excellency, the great leader, for the best wishes and this beautiful gift.

On the occasion of the 1990 international New Year, I am honored to extend to your excellency—great leader and excellent head of state of Korea—best wishes for good health, long life, and eternal fame. I extend my warm congratulations for the numerous brilliant victories scored in your great and lofty patriotic mission of socialist construction, which has turned the DPRK into a real heaven for the Korean people and into a very modern and powerful country that is developed in all fields and is invincible militarily.

The people in the world admire and love Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il-song, the sun of the revolution, the developer of mankind, and the great hero of the Third World. Your excellency has very lofty prestige in the Third World. The reunification of Korea will be successful under your wise leadership and in line with your wise and very patriotic proposal.

Democratic Kampuchea, the Cambodian people, and myself will always stand by your side.

Availing myself of this joyous occasion, I would like to express our endless, deepest gratitude to you for your noble and firm support given us in our sacred struggle for national liberation.

Please, excellency, the marshal and president of the DPRK, accept my highest and most respectful regards.

[Dated] Beijing, 23 December 1989
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea

Sihanouk Greets New Romanian Leader Iliescu

BK3012035489 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Here is the text of the telegram from Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, to His Excellency Ion Iliescu, president of the Romanian National Salvation Council:

Mr President: On behalf of Democratic Kampuchea and the Cambodian people and in my own name, I am honored to extend warmest congratulations to you on your assumption of the historic position of head of state of Romania.

I wish you total success in your noble mission and to the new Romanian Government in its mission and efforts to restore national democracy, peace, and unity.

In this spirit, I would like your excellency to please accept my highest regards.

[Dated] Beijing, 27 December 1989
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea

Khieu Samphan Greets Romanian Foreign Minister

BK0401094090 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Here is a message of greetings from Vice President His Excellency Khieu Samphan to His Excellency Sergiv Celac, Romanian foreign minister.

The message reads:

Your Excellency,

I am extremely delighted to have learned that the Romanian National Salvation Committee has appointed your excellency as foreign minister of Romania.

On this occasion, on behalf of the Cambodian people, the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK], and in my own name, I would like to convey to you our warmest greetings and best wishes. May you have the best of health, great happiness, and immense successes in the implementation of your task to serve Romania and its valiant people.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, I would like also, through you, to extend the CGDK's high esteem to the Romanian National Salvation Committee for Romania's sympathy for the struggle waged by the Cambodian people—under the leadership of His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian resistance forces and president of Democratic Kampuchea [DK]—to safeguard the nation's survival and independence.

I am firmly confident that the traditional ties and harmonious cooperation between our two countries and peoples, who are fond of peace and justice, will further develop.

Please, your excellency, accept my highest fraternal regards.

[Dated] Democratic Kampuchea, 28 December 1989
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, vice chairman of DK in charge of Foreign Affairs

Son Sann Supports Australian Plan for Peace

BK0401074690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] According to a report from Paris, His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and prime minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK], said yesterday that he supported in principle Australia's peace plan for Cambodia, but would reserve his final judgment until he received further details.

The Australian plan suggests the installation of a UN administration in place of the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh until the holding of free elections in Cambodia. However, the plan also proposed that the seat of the CGDK and the Cambodian resistance at the United Nations be vacated.

His Excellency Son Sann said he would meet with Australia's special envoy, Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs Michael Costello, on 11-12 January.

Costello left Australia on Wednesday [3 January] on his visit to five countries in order to discuss the Australian peace plan.

ANS Said To Seize Position in Oddar Meanchey

BK3112061489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] The Voice of the Khmer's newsroom has just received a report saying that on Friday [29 December] the combatants of the Sihanoukist National Army [ANS] seized control of an important position at Baray village in Oddar Meanchey Province.

According to the ANS General Staff, on Friday the ANS combatants from the 7th, 14th, 15th, and 18th Brigades, the 3d Military Region, and the special intervention unit launched an attack on the Baray position. After fighting for nearly 3 hours, the ANS combatants seized full control of this Baray position. In this fighting, 1 Heng Samrin soldier was killed and 10 others were wounded. Meanwhile, the ANS combatants seized 42 AK-47's, 2 B-41's, 4 RPD's, 1 M-82-mm mortar, 2 12.7-mm heavy machine guns, and a large quantity of medicine and war materiel; and destroyed a food supply storage.

In connection with this victory, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk sent a message to the ANS on 30 December commending all ANS combatants, particularly the 7th, 15th, and 18th Brigades under the command of Lieutenant Colonel (Kim Sok), Major (Sok Suorsdei), and Maj (Khek Phan); and the 21st and 14th Brigades, combatants of the 3d Military Region, and of the special intervention unit under the command of Lt Col (Long Vera) and Maj (Thach Tan).

In the message, the samdech stressed that, thanks to the patriotic struggle of those persons, Cambodia will certainly be liberated one day.

Tanks 'Knocked Out' Near Captured Position

BK0101100290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] The Sihanoukist National Army [ANS] High Command has revealed that ANS combatants killed 17 Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers and knocked out 2 Soviet-made T-54 tanks yesterday in an ambush to cut off enemy forces attempting to recapture the Baray position held by ANS for the previous 2 days.

The report said that at 0930 yesterday, Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers with the support of T-54 tanks launched an attack in an attempt to recapture this Baray position which had been under ANS control for the previous 2 days, but they were intercepted and scattered by ANS combatants. One T-54 tank was knocked out during the fighting.

It was further reported that the same afternoon, the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin forces sent four truckloads of troops from the district seat of Samraong in their second attempt to attack and recapture Baray with the support of two T-54 tanks. These troops were again ambushed by ANS forces near Tonle Sar Village. Another T-54 tank was set ablaze. The 15-minute ambush of ANS combatants forced the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers to retreat.

The Baray position was captured by ANS combatants from the 7th and 18th Brigades on 29 December using T-54 tanks they had captured from the Vietnamese-Heng

Samrin forces. Baray position is located south of the Ampil District seat, Oddar Meanchey Province, which was only recently liberated by ANS forces who also killed 17 enemy soldiers in the capture of that position.

Phnom Penh 'Division-Level Commander' Killed

BK2712045889 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 26 Dec 89

[From "News in Brief"]

[Text] On 16-17 December, our national resistance forces routed offensives mounted to retake Phnum Preal from us by the Vietnamese enemies and puppets from Kamping Puoy and Bavel. We killed many SRV and puppet soldiers on the spot, as well as the barbarous division-level commander called (Sin Sok) of the puppet regime.

Administrators in Kompong Thom Said To Defect

BK3112043089 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 30 Dec 89

[Text] Upon hearing news that village and commune administrators who were forced to serve the Vietnamese war of aggression in Popok, Krayea, and Dong Communes had successively laid down their weapons and defected to our national resistance forces, on 20 December 1989 a total of 150 village and commune administrators, Cambodian soldiers, and militiamen who were forced to serve the Vietnamese war of aggression in Pralay Commune, Stoung District, of Kompong Thom Province, laid down their weapons and defected to our Cambodian national resistance forces. They handed over all their weapons to our national resistance forces and asked for permission to return home in order to lead a normal life as ordinary people.

Among these defectors were the administrators of Anlung Pring, Kampreal, Pralay, Ang, Kouk Rovieng, Prek Chea, and Kompong Vieng villages.

Soldiers Killed, 2 Bridges Destroyed on Route 6

BK3012023089 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] On 22 December, the tripartite resistance forces jointly launched an attack on a 15-km stretch of Route 6 in the area between Preah Net Preah and Sisophon on north Sisophon battlefield [Battambang Province].

The tripartite resistance forces destroyed 2 iron bridges on Route 6 east of Sala Krau and west of Sala Krau, killed 13 Vietnamese enemies and their puppets, and wounded 23 others. They also destroyed 13 barracks, 3 B-40's, an RPD, and 9 AK's and seized 3 AK's, a B-40, and a B-41.

Awhile later, two trucks carrying Vietnamese and puppet soldiers moved out of Preah Net Preah to Sala Krau in an attempt to rescue their colleagues. The trucks ran over landmines and were ambushed by the tripartite resistance forces at Areak Bak Kor. The 2 trucks were totally destroyed, 15 enemy soldiers were killed, and 25 others were wounded.

In sum, our tripartite resistance forces killed 28 Vietnamese and puppet soldiers and wounded 48 others for a total of 76 casualties and destroyed 2 iron bridges on Route 6.

Sisophon District Seat Defense Network Attacked

BK0201013890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] On 22 December, our Cambodian national resistance forces attacked a Vietnamese-puppet regimental position defending Sisophon District seat, north Sisophon battlefield. We killed 65 Vietnamese and puppet soldiers and wounded 47 others. And we destroyed 8 B-40 and B-41 rocket launchers, 2 RPD light machineguns, and 10 AK's, and seized 2 RPD light machine guns, 4 B-40 rocket launchers, 5 AK's, and a great deal of war materiel.

100 SRV, 'Puppet' Soldiers Desert 23 Dec

BK2712043289 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Excerpt] On 23 December over 100 Vietnamese and puppet soldiers stationed at Dang Tung, Route 10 battlefield, deserted their position and returned home. In the course of their escape, 15 Cambodian soldiers rallied to our national resistance forces. [passage omitted]

Regiment, Battalion Commanders Said Killed

BK0101030090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] On 26 December, an SRV-puppet regimental unit moving out from Thnoeng and Boeng Trav was intercepted and routed north of Teak Sbek village, in Battambang District, west Battambang battlefield. We killed 18 Vietnamese-puppet soldiers, including a regiment commander and a battalion commander, and wounded 6 others. We destroyed 6 AK's, 3 B-40 and B-41 rocket launchers, and 2 RPK machine guns; and we seized 13 AK's, 2 B-40 rocket launchers, 1 pistol, 1 set of radio-communication ICOM, and some ammunition and war materiel.

Kompong Thom Villagers Reportedly Surrender

BK0201014090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Excerpt] On 27 December, our national resistance forces liberated the office building of Tuol Kreul commune at Mreak in Kompong Svay District, Kompong Thom Province, and the seven [as heard] following villages: Chonluh, Krapaeu, Thnal, Tuol Kreul, M'reak, and M'reak Thor.

Following the liberation, 150 Cambodian soldiers, militiamen, and communal officials forcibly assigned by the Vietnamese enemies to serve their war of aggression surrendered and handed over 75 assorted guns to our national resistance forces. [passage omitted]

Laos

Thai Border Committee Delegation Arrives 4 Jan

BK0401125990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] In response to an invitation from Souban Salitthilat, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and chairman of the Lao-Thai Joint Border Committee, a delegation of the Thai-Lao Joint Border Committee led by Praphat Limpaphan, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand and chairman of the Thai-Lao Joint Border Committee, arrived in Vientiane by special plane this morning for a 3-day working visit to the LPDR.

This afternoon the Thai delegation led by Praphat Limpaphan held a meeting with a delegation of the Lao-Thai Joint Border Committee led by Souban Salitthilat. In the meeting, the two sides jointly assessed the achievements they have scored in carrying out their tasks and responsibilities. They also studied the results of the survey and inspection of areas by the technical subcommittee and, on that basis, discussed tasks to be carried out in the future with a view to settling, at an early date, the border dispute in the areas in Laos' Boten District, Sayaboury Province, and Thailand's Chat Trakan District, Phitsanulok Province in order to turn the Lao-Thai border into a border of peace, friendship, brotherhood, and prosperity as stipulated in the Lao-Thai joint statement of 25 November 1988.

During the working visit to the LPDR, Praphat Limpaphan and his delegation will pay courtesy calls on various Lao leaders and dignitaries. They will also visit Luang Prabang Province.

Outgoing CSSR Ambassador Received by Leaders

Meets With Phoumi Vongvichit

BK2912142389 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the republic, today received a courtesy call from Jiri Myslivecek, outgoing ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the CSSR to Laos, who bade farewell to the acting president at the presidential office after completing his diplomatic tenure of more than 4 years in Laos.

Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit commended Jiri Myslivecek's diplomatic tasks in Laos, which have thus contributed to further strengthening the relations of friendship and close cooperation between Laos and the CSSR. Phoumi Vongvichit wished Jiri Myslivecek a safe trip home and success in his new mission.

Meets With Phoun Sipaseut

BK2912141589 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Text] Phoun Sipaseut—member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs—this morning received a courtesy call from Jiri Myslivecek, outgoing ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the CSSR to Laos, who bade farewell to him after completing his diplomatic tenure of more than 4 years in Laos.

Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, praised and highly evaluated Ambassador Jiri Myslivecek's diplomatic activities during his more than 4-year tenure, which have significantly contributed to further developing and strengthening the long-standing relations of fraternal friendship between the parties and peoples of Laos and Czechoslovakia.

Envoy Receives Friendship Medal

BK0401114990 Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 4 (KPL)—Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs, conferred here on Jan 3 a "Mittaphap" (friendship) medal on Czechoslovak ambassador to Laos, Mr. Jiri Myslivecek, when the latter is at the end of his term of office in Laos.

In his speech, the vice-chairman, on behalf of the Lao party, government and people, thanked the ambassador for his contribution to the strengthening of fraternal relations of friendship and cooperation between the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic during his term of office.

The vice-chairman, on this occasion, also wished the Czechoslovak ambassador success in his new mission.

Leaders Greet New Romanian Counterparts

BK0401111190 Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, January 4 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on December 28 sent a telegram of congratulations to Ion Iliescu, chairman of Romania's National Salvation Front.

The Lao acting president expressed congratulations to Ion Iliescu over his appointment and expressed conviction that the Lao people, during hard times of the Romanian people, would stand side by side with the Romanians in their struggle for freedom, democracy and restructuring.

On this occasion, Kaysone Phomvihan chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers and Lao Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut also sent telegrams of the same nature respectively to their Romanian counterparts Petre Roman and Sergiu Celac.

Trade Minister Leaves for Visit to Vietnam

BK0401103790 Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 4 (KPL)—A delegation of the Ministry of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations headed by its minister, Phao Bounnaphon, left here on January 2 for a visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Protocols on goods exchange and clearance for 1990 between the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] and the SRV are expected to be signed.

Seeing the delegation off at the airport, among others were Mrs Khempheng Phonsena, deputy minister of trade and foreign economic relations.

Tran Quang Nho, adviser to the Vietnamese ambassador to Laos was also present at the airport.

Oudom Khatti-nga Receives Asia-Pacific Students

BK3012133989 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 30 Dec 89

[Text] This morning in Vientiane capital, Oudom Khatti-nga, secretary of the party Central Committee and in charge of mass organizations affairs, received a delegation of the Union of Asia-Pacific Students. The delegation is here to attend a seminar on peace.

On the same morning, Mrs Thongvin Phomvihan, first secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union Central Committee [LPRYU CC], also received the delegation at the LPRYU CC office.

During the meetings, Oudom Khatti-gna and Mrs Thongvin Phomvihan discussed with the delegation various issues, in particular economic development in Laos in the past and present. They also highly appraised the outcome of the seminar co-hosted by the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union and the the Union of Asia-Pacific Students, which is an important event conducive to learning, to the straightforward exchange of views on various problems of common interest, and which is also a contribution to the further expansion of close relations and mutual understanding between the Union of Asia-Pacific Students and the LPRYU, which will enable them to jointly struggle for peace in Asia and the Pacific region.

Second Trade Union Enlarged Meeting Closed

BK0301043490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] After 3 days of energetic working in a spirit of responsibility, the second enlarged meeting of the Second Central Committee of the Federation of Lao Trade Unions [FLTU] was closed, with glorious success, in Vientiane capital on the afternoon of 30 December. Attending the closing ceremony as guests of honor were Oudom Khatti-gna, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and official in charge of guiding mass organizations, and secretaries of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Unions, members of the Standing Committee of the Lao Women's Federation, representatives of the Lao Front for National Construction, and representatives of the office of the LPRP Central Committee and office of the Council of Ministers.

On this occasion, Bounthan Souvannasouk, chairman of the FLTU Central Committee, delivered a speech on the achievements of the meeting. He noted that the participants unanimously agreed on the assessment of the activities carried out by the trade unions in performing various tasks since the second trade union congress. The meeting particularly discussed common direction, common tasks, and concrete tasks in each field for 1990. It also passed a resolution reiterating the roles and responsibilities, rules and regulations, and organizational work of the trade unions as well as the problem on (?wages) of trade union members, and other issues.

Oudom Khatti-gna also addressed the meeting. He pointed out some of the outstanding points of the current world and domestic situations as viewed and assessed by our party. He noted certain urgent tasks that must be fulfilled by the trade, youth, and women unions, such as the task of stepping up educating and training cadres, union members, workers, and laboring people in the political and ideological fields, the task of guaranteeing rights and interests of union members, and the task of consolidating and perfecting the organizational apparatuses of the various mass organizations in the immediate future.

Saman Vi-gnaket Attends Food Production Seminar

BK0201095090 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 2 (KPL)—A workshop on the national food family production for the nation-wide teachers' training schools held at the Ban Keun mid-level nurses and teachers's training school of Vientiane Province by the Ministry of Education and Sports has wound up.

The workshop was sponsored by the UNICEF, the Mennonites, the Quakers, the Save the Children funds (UK and Australia), and some others.

With the participation of 47 representatives from the teachers' training schools across the country and from the Lao women's union branches, the workshop, the first of its kind, presented 16 documents studied both in theory and practice. These included the organisation of agro-production at schools, crop propagation, the intensive bio-family garden, nutrition, fish and hen raising and others.

Saman Vi-gnaket, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and minister of education and sports, also talked to the participants during the sessions.

Philippines

Residents Oppose Transfer of Camps to Clark

HK0201090790 Quezon City MALAYA in English 31 Dec 89 p 10

[By Sonny Lopez]

[Text] Angeles City—Residents of this city and nearby Mabalacat town reiterated Saturday in a dialog with Rep. Carmelo Lazatin their opposition to the proposed transfer of military camps to Clark Air Base.

In a consultation meeting last July with 24 sectorial representatives from Angeles City, Mabalacat and Magalang towns, the residents expressed strong opposition to any move to transform Clark into a huge camp by the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

This sentiment was bolstered after the Dec. 1 coup attempt staged by rebel soldiers who tried to take control of key facilities in Metro Manila including the camps which resulted with the killing and wounding of hundreds of civilians.

Mabalacat Vice Mayor Marino Morales, said they do not want a similar incident to happen in Angeles and Mabalacat, which are both heavily populated.

Camps should be located in areas that are not as populated as these two towns, Morales said. This is also the sentiment of the some members of the Association of Barangay Councils, Morales added.

Lazatin, in an interview, said he had already made known this sentiment to the Executive-Legislative Bases Council. The Pampanga solon is a member of the council which is tasked to study alternative uses of the U.S. facilities in Pampanga and Olongapo in anticipation of their withdrawal in 1991.

Lazatin said "we will not be maximizing the benefits we can get from Clark by transferring camps in Metro Manila to the area," he said.

Clark is best suited for an international airport complex, Lazatin said.

"The strategic location is there, together with the facilities which are already in place to make that vision possible," Lazatin explained.

There are other areas in Pampanga and in the region that will benefit with the transfer of military camps. He mentioned Floridablanca, Pampanga which houses the Basa Air Base and the Fifth Fighter Wing as well as Capas, Tarlac where Camp O'Donnel and Crow Valley are situated. These areas are also heavily populated, Lazatin added.

The move to transfer the military camps outside Metro Manila was made by Rep. Jose de Venecia (Pangasinan) shortly after the failed coup.

De Venecia said the sale of some of the military camps in Metro Manila is expected to generate billions of pesos for the government.

Sources Say Communists Attacked Americans

HK0101053890 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] The bombing of an American diplomat's home in Makati and the U.S. housing and recreational complex in Pasay City last December 14 was perpetrated by communist insurgents and not by remnants of the rebel soldiers as earlier reported, who tried to seize power during the first week of December, intelligence community sources said yesterday. The sources said the grenade attacks on the house of U.S. Embassy agriculture councillor (Lai Moe) in Dasmarinas and on the seafront housing and recreational compound in Pasay was part of the Communist Party of the Philippines' [CPP] plan to kill American personnel and sabotage U.S. facilities. The plot was embodied in a seized CPP document illustrating a strategem for urban [word indistinct] to bomb installations and target for liquidation senior American ministers and diplomatic officials.

Manglapus Assures No Change in Ties With PRC

HK3112024889 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 30 Dec 89 p 11

[By Romy Mapile]

[Text] The proposed change of name of the Taiwan Cultural and Economic Center to Philippine Asian

Exchange Center will not affect the "one-China policy" of the Philippine government.

This was assured yesterday by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus who maintained that the Philippines will continue to adhere to its "one-China policy."

Manglapus made the assurance in response to a protest by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China (PROC) over the appellation of "Philippines" to the name of the Taiwanese mission house.

"We respect the position of China, but I hope China will respect our position, that the change in name of the Taiwanese office here will not change its status as far as the Philippine government is concerned," Manglapus said.

Manglapus explained that the corresponding offices of other countries in Taipei as well as the corresponding offices of Taipei in other countries "might be titled very similarly to what the proposed change will be in the Philippines."

"But it does not mean that those countries have ceased to recognize Beijing as the seat of government of all Chinese nationals in the world," Manglapus said.

Diplomatic circles differed, however, with Manglapus in that the corresponding offices of Taipei in other countries "do not assume the name of those countries for their office names."

"To call a Taiwanese office, Philippine Asian Exchange Center is, at least, a misnomer, if Manglapus does not consider it an affront to national integrity," they said.

"Even in the United States, which is probably the most permissive country in the world, it would be unthinkable to call a Taiwanese office, American Asian Exchange Center," according to the diplomats.

They said the Taiwanese tend to push through political barriers anywhere they can, and they seem to be getting away with a lot of surprising accommodations in this country.

"It is high time Manglapus stops playing with diplomacy and, put his foot down to stamp out further abuses against Filipino cordiality, if not the patrimony of the nation, altogether," they said.

Manglapus made the statement on receipt of a report from Assistant Secretary Jorge Coquia, chief negotiator for the Philippines, that the Malaysian representatives have agreed to delineate a specific area in the contested waters which could be assigned as a free zone for fishermen from both countries.

"The exact location and technical description of the mutual fishing grounds are now being plotted by a combined team of RP-[Republic of the Philippines] Malaysian maritime authorities prior to the drafting of a formal agreement," Manglapus said.

Manglapus hailed this new development "as a major accomplishment in the long-drawn-out negotiations between the two countries which may pave the way for the eventual settlement of the more important issue of ocean boundaries."

The third meeting of the RP and Malaysian panel on the fishing controversy was held at the Century Park Sheraton Hotel in Manila last November, after two failed attempts at reaching a consensus last year.

The RP-Malaysia controversy over fishing rights arose early last year after the arrest of 50 Filipino fishermen and the impounding of their three fishing boats by the Malaysian navy.

"If we resolve our fishing grounds problem with Malaysia, it is highly probable we may resolve our boundary issues too, and perhaps even the thorny Sabah controversy," Manglapus said.

Senate Approves Report on Powers of Probe Group

HK0301064790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0600 GMT 3 Jan 89

[Text] The Senate has approved the bicameral conference report on a bill granting additional powers to the Davide Commission, turning it into an independent quasijudicial body. The commission is investigating the December coup attempt. The bill grants the Davide Commission power to look into the bank accounts of individuals suspected of involvement in the coup. The commission is no longer a body formed by the president, but a body created by Congress. Its composition, however, is not expected to change.

Breakthrough in Talks With Malaysia Announced

HK0401091590 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 3 Jan 90 pp 1, 12

[By Romy V. Mapile]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said yesterday that a breakthrough has been reached in the Philippine-Malaysia controversy over fishing territorial rights.

Aquino Signs Bill on Probe

HK0401094390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] President Aquino has signed into law the proposed bill seeking additional powers for the Davide fact-finding commission, which is tasked to investigate the December 1989 coup. The commission is empowered to look into the bank accounts of civilian and military officials suspected of involvement in the putsch. A 10-million-peso budget was allotted for the duration of

the probe which could last for 1 year. Yesterday, the two chambers of Congress approved the proposed bill in an emergency session.

Senator Maceda Calls on Aquino 'To Change'

HK0101113890 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Slantlines denote passages in English]

[Excerpt] Senator Ernesto Maceda said President Aquino herself has to change if she wants the government to run effectively. He said that the cabinet revamp will be useless if she does not change. He added that the president should lead the changes in the government.

[Begin Maceda recording] /Let us remember that a cabinet only assists the president and all decisions are really supposed to be made by the president herself./ I ask myself whether this signals a change in the president. No matter who are the cabinet members you have, if the president herself does not change, /in a manner of speaking/, then there is no change. /Now previous to this, she was very resistant to change. So in the context of the president's personality and previous orientation, this is a major revamp./ I have read many articles saying /this is a mini revamp, this is just a reshuffle, and all of that. If you review that the president has been very resistant to major changes in the past, I think that this is a good sign. And it probably indicates that she has finally come to accept that there has got to be more consultation and especially a better working dialogue with congress./ [end recording] [passage omitted]

Aquino Calls for Greater Cabinet Team Work

HK0401021990 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1100 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] President Aquino today met with her new cabinet following the swearing into office of the newly appointed cabinet members. During the meeting, President Aquino called for greater team work and coordination between and among all departments of the government to make all projects and programs more well orchestrated and responsive to the needs of the people. Tanny Rodriguez has more:

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] The president made this call during the regular cabinet meeting in Malacanang today and was disclosed to newsmen through a press briefing conducted by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III, Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao, and Department of Public Works and Highways Secretary Fiorello Estuar. Topping the agenda in today's cabinet meeting was the implementation of the cluster system in the cabinet, primarily to enhance interagency coordination and expedite the implementation of major interagency programs and projects. The cabinet cluster system will be composed of five groups. First, the agroindustrial cluster. Second, the macroeconomy finance cluster. Third, the human resource development support cluster. Fourth, the fiscal infrastructure support cluster. The fifth, security and political development cluster, and this was in line with the memorandum Order No 271 issued by the president last year.

As regards the direct access of department secretaries to the president, Finance Secretary Estanislao has this to say:

[Estanislao] The presidential coordinating secretaries should not be another layer interposed between the president and the secretaries. The president was emphasizing this, that she wants the line secretaries to continue to have direct access to her. So she does not want the presidential coordinating secretaries to be the buffer between her and the line department, because she would like us to be held accountable for the performance of our respective departments. But what these coordinating secretaties are supposed to do would be to resolve whatever issues that would be hanging between two, or three, or four departments. [end recording]

Aquino Confirms Plan To Revamp Armed Forces

HK0401121590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Report by Vic Pambuan]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today confirmed there will be an extensive revamp in the various commands of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] following a failed bloody coup attempt on 1 December. The president said she had to carry out the revamp in her Cabinet first and then focus her attention on the AFP to prevent any more attempts to overthrow the government. She also reaffirmed her confidence in Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and AFP Chief of Staff Renato de Villa, who, she said, managed to maintain control of the republic despite vigorous efforts by the enemies to fight the government. She added this was the reason why she retained Ramos as defense secretary, despite beliefs by some observers that a certain portion of the military is not in favor of his leadership. The president, however, made known to the two officials that as commander in chief, she could easily name someone to head the AFP should the national interest be at stake.

The president also asserted she will use her crisis powers to recover the weapons lost from the AFP armories. She ordered attacks, in the next few days, on establishments and houses suspected of being used as a storehouse for the missing weapons:

[Begin recording] [Presidential spokesman Adolfo Azcuna in English] There have been and there will be continued changes in the commands of different military units to strengthen professionalism and allegiance to the Constitution.

I would like to reiterate my full confidence in Secretary Ramos and General de Villa, and my commendations for their excellent performance in the suppression of the

rebellion. In fairness to them, they have unequivocally acknowledged my prerogative as president and commander in chief to effect changes even at low level should the executors of this service and interest of the nation so require. [end recording]

That was Presidential spokesman Adolf Azcuna.

Ileto Denies Being Offered Defense Post

HK0301100790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 Jan 90

[By Vic Pambuan of Mobile 13]

[Text] National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto, after a cabinet meeting today, said there will be a serious revamp of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] after 20 generals retire this year. In an interview, he said Chief of Staff General Renato S. de Villa, is carefully studying who among the good officials will replace the retiring generals who have served the AFP for a long time:

[Begin recording in English] [Ileto] Well, I guess it has been decided that way. We will be happy to receive the new men. General Adalem is a very good man also [words indistinct]. I hate to see them go but you know how it is, somebody makes decisions.

[Reporter] Is it true that there was a meeting of the intelligence board which was composed of you and General Ramos on the 29th, and General Ramos discounted the possibility of another coup? [end recording]

Meanwhile, Ileto denied that President Aquino offered him Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos' post, before the chief executive announced the cabinet revamp. Ileto clarified that there is no connection between the rebel soldiers' demands with the cabinet reshuffle. He made this statement after receiving some information that the rebel soldiers have dismissed their plan to stage a new coup against the government. There were rumors saying that the president offered him the defense portfolio because Ramos was not doing the job well, and this is why the soldiers turned against the government. Ileto said these rumors are not true and are false information.

In another development, former justice secretary Sedfrey Ordonez has just left the meeting. Regarding the report that he refused the new position offered to him by the president, here is his statement:

[Begin recording in English] [Ordonez] I have not taken my oath so there is nothing for me to leave for. [as heard]

[Reporter] Haven't you taken your oath, Sir?

[Ordonez] I have not taken my oath.

[Reporter] When are you taking it?

[Ordonez] I don't know. It is up to the president to explain. The fact is that I have not taken my oath. Now, I came particularly because I'm preparing for the nuclear discussions. [end recording]

Aquino Orders Nationwide Firearms Inventory

HK0401021790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0200 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] President Aquino directed Armed Forces Chief of Staff Renato de Villa to make an inventory of the military's firearms, ammunition, and explosives, including those lent to civilians. This move is in accordance with her directive to cancel all gun licenses issued to civilians. With the immediate issuance of this order, the president also gave 1 month to all owners of unlicensed firearms to surrender their guns to the constabulary. The Philippine Constabulary will carry out a nationwide registration of firearms. Earlier, reports said that some civilians, who are members of a gun club, participated in the failed coup in the first week of December.

Customs Officials Charged With Coup Involvement

HK2912115289 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 29 Dec 89

[From the "GMA News" program]

[Text] The Customs Bureau today filed rebellion charges against nine of its employees who were involved in the recent coup attempt. Most of the customs personnel were connected to the intelligence and investigation service headed by Colonel Billy Bibit, a former Philippine Constabulary major. Only one of the nine accused is in custody of the authorities.

The nine accused customs employees, aided by rebel soldiers, allegedly tried to take over the North and South harbors last 1 December.

[Begin recording in English by unidentified male] We have here Teddy Abesamis, and after examining the papers, probably the most significant of this, is of course unusual...[changes thought] I will refrain from making any comment on it, but I do feel that it is quite significant, because here it is written on December 1, and this certifies that I, the undersigned, took out 25 cartons of Maling and 4 cartons of corn beef from warehouse No 9. That established their presence in that area. They further promised that said items should be paid after the coup, the revolution. Then signed: for the soldier of the Filipino People. Signed by me. So, the assumption here is they have already declared themselves victor. They thought the coup was over. [end recording]

10.5-Million-Peso Reward for 15 Coup Plotters

HK0201100190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] The constabulary has offered a 10.5-million-peso reward for the arrest of 15 renegade military officers who led the 1 December coup attempt. The Philippine Constabulary [PC] also released photos of the suspected coup plotters for publication, as the military intensifies its nationwide manhunt for their capture. The updated list of the wanted coup plotters varies a little with the one which the Armed Forces of the Philippines headquarters released last Monday [1 January], which named 12 renegade military officers.

The first six wanted coup leaders who have a 1-million-peso reward for their capture are renegade Army Lieutenant Colonel Gringo Honasan, Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Kapunan, PC Colonel Victor Batac, PC Brigadier General Edgardo Abenina, ex-Air Force Brigadier General Jose Maria Zumel, and ex-Navy Captain Felix Turingan. Navy Captains Jaime Lucas, Proceso Maliglig, and civilian Jaime Luz are not included on the PC's wanted list, even if they are also being hunted by authorities.

Of the 15 wanted coup leaders, 6 are from the PC, 5 from the army, and 2 each from the army [as heard] and navy. The private sector contributed part of the reward money. The most wanted is Gringo Honasan, former security chief of former defense minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

Judge Rejects Coup Leader Comendador's Petition

HK0201100790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Judge Maximiano Asuncion of the Quezon Regional Trial Court rejected a petition for writ of habeas corpus filed on behalf of Brigadier General Jose Comendador by his wife. In a resolution, the judge said the detention of General Comendador, who was involved in the December coup attempt, is legal. The details from Andy Vital, Mobile Unit 15:

[Begin recording] [Vital] Presiding Judge Maximiano Asuncion today rejected a petition for habeas corpus filed by Mrs. Ruth Comendador for her husband Brigadier General Jose Comendador, who is presently detained in Camp Crame for suspicion of involvement in the 1-7 December coup. Judge Asuncion said the detention of the general is legal, adding that pursuant to the military law and the Article of War, as a military officer Comendador must be subjected to military justice.

[Asuncion in English] The court, after hearing the arguments of the contending parties and evaluating the evidence presented, is satisfied that Brigadier General Jose B. Comendador is being legally detained. Wherefore the petition for habeas corpus dated December 25, 1989, filed by petitioner is hereby denied.

[Vital] That is the resolution read by presiding Judge Maximiano Asuncion of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court.

Meanwhile, he ordered General de Villa's lawyers to explain within 24 hours, why General de Villa failed to appear and present General Jose Comendador in court.

In this regard, Attorney Oliver Lozano, Mrs. Comendador's lawyer, promised to file a motion for reconsideration that the court may change its decision. [end recording]

Rebels Said Planning Rescue of Jailed Comrades

HK0401092390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 3 Jan 90 p 5

[From "Counterpoint" column by Alvin Capino: "Military Rebels' Next Move"]

[Text] Rebel military forces are expected to mount another strike in the next few weeks to increase the pressure on President Aquino to grant their demands.

It will not be a major offensive but rather a sort of muscle-flexing that would effectively but bloodlessly deliver the message on the rebels' capabilities.

A senior government official familiar with military affairs drew this scenario. He said the most probable next move by the rebels would be to engineer a mass rescue/escape of rebel officers and men who are now in military detention.

The official said a successful mass escape would be as effective as another coup attempt in its destabilization effects on the government. The official said he has already discussed this probability with Malacanang so that measures can be made to anticipate such a move from the rebels.

The ease with which prisoners have walked away from tightly secured military detention centers puts in serious doubt the government's ability to prevent a mass escape of detained rebels even when such a move is anticipated.

The escape of rebel leader cashiered Lt. Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan from what was supposed to have been an escape-proof detention in a Navy ship anchored in Manila Bay shows how difficult preventing an escape would be.

Honasan's escape which was made with the help of his own guards from an elite unit of the Navy who fled with him raises the question of the dependability of the guards now guarding the rebels. One cannot even be sure if there are rebel supporters among the officials and men assigned to guard the detention centers.

20 Charged With Attempt To Overthrow Government

HK0401051390 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Dismissed Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Matiliano and 19 other civilians are being charged with rebellion. The charges were filed with the Department of Justice for allegedly attempting to overthrow the government during the December 1 coup attempt. This raised to (?87) the number of civilians charged with rebellion before the Justice Department. All the suspected civilian coup participants are still at large except for Matiliano and Rolando de Gracia.

Business Groups Voice Confidence in Economy

HK3112025089 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 30 Dec 89

[Text] Five well-known business organizations issued a joint statement declaring their confidence in the country's economy in spite of the recent bloody coup attempt. The organizations, headed by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, affirmed their confidence in the future of the country's economy, which was badly shattered by the coup d'etat. They claimed that the fundamental strength of the Philippine economy was not affected by the incident. Because of the heightened conviction of the Filipino people and the reforms to be implemented by the government, the country's economy is expected to continue to improve.

Southern Command Generals Support Government

HK0301100990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 Jan 90

[By Benjie de Galicia]

[Text] Military officials in the entire Southern Luzon reiterated their firm support for the Aquino government even if some of their companions in the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] wanted to overthrow the government. They have just concluded a meeting this afternoon at Camp Nakar, and they have planned a new tactic to fight the enemies of the government, particularly the insurgents, which is the main problem of this region. The meeting was led by the most controversial AFP general, Brigadier General Alejandro Galido, Southern Command commander. All Southern Luzon field commanders were present. Among them were Regional Command 5 Brigadier General Marino Filart, Naval District 3 Commander Commodore Marino Panes Jr., 2d Division Philippine Army Chief Brigadier General Thelmo Cunanan, and Regional Command 4 Commander Brigadier General Evaristo Carino. Other Philippine Army and Philippine Constabulary brigade and district commanders also attended. General Galido said that while he is in office he will devote all his time fighting the insurgents in the area.

Manglapus Seeks Basis To Weed Out Marcos Men

HK0401092790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 3 Jan 90 p 9

[By Jerry Esplanada]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday said Congress should provide him with "a legal basis" for weeding out Marcos loyalists in his department.

In yesterday's press briefing, Manglapus said "both the Senate and the department (of foreign affairs) see the need that if we want to do a revamp, we need a law."

"We cannot undertake a weeding out process without legal basis...under the new Constitution. We will run into the question of due process and questions of the civil service," he said.

"It will have to be a new law to provide a legal basis for this kind of action," Manglapus said.

He said the DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] is now drafting a bill "to show once and for all that we are not hesitant to weed out (Marcos loyalists), and it is up to the legislators to decide."

He pointed out that "all the career people here worked under (former President) Marcos, unless they just joined the foreign service. That's why we need a basis and we have to draw a line."

"I have been drawing myself an arbitary line—if you rendered service to Marcos beyond the call of duty, then you should be suspected of wrongdoing. But who will say you rendered service to Marcos beyond the call of duty? That's why I'm looking for a law," Manglapus said.

The presence of Marcos loyalists in the foreign office is "a reality we have to confront," said the foreign secretary.

Former passport division chief Edgardo Castro is one of DFA officials being investigated by the government for alleged participation in the recent nine-day putsch that left at least 113 people killed and 500 wounded.

Castro was one of several Marcos loyalists including lawyer Rafael Recto, caught by a People's Television 4 camera confering with rebel soldiers at the Channel 4 compound at the height of the coup attempt.

Castro was earlier relieved of his post at the consular services office for his role in the issuance of passports to Marcos ally Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. and seven members of the businessman's family in Los Angeles last October.

At the same time, Manglapus said he would consult with other government agencies if there is a need to cancel the passport of opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile.

Last week, the National Bureau of Investigation recommended the filing of rebellion charges against Enrile and several others for their alleged participation in the recent failed coup attempt.

"We have to consult with the other agencies affected," Manglapus told diplomatic reporters.

In a related development, Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo yesterday said she has asked businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco to submit his passport and arrival card to the CID [Commission on Immigration and Deportation] office within seven days for processing.

In a letter to the former Marcos crony, Domingo said CID records showed that Cojuangco was "not manifested in any flight or voyage which arrived during the month of November."

"A thorough check of all manifests of planes and ships that arrived in the country revealed that Cojuangco never entered the country," the CID chief said.

Asked what she will do if it turns out that Cojuangco's passport was properly stamped, Domingo said she will then go after the immigration personnel who did so.

Domingo also revealed that the "hold order list" will be updated to include those who were involved in the latest coup attempt. She said the NBI [National Bureau of Investigation] is now preparing a separate list.

Domingo said a special enforcement team will be deployed at the arrival area of the NAIA [Ninoy Aquino International Airport] to spot persons in the watchlist who might use different names.

She said she will hold office at NAIA three times a week and during arrivals of "sensitive flights" to watch over the operations of her personnel at the airport.

Meanwhile, the foreign office has denied the application for a passport by former Marcos associate Rodolfo Cuenca who is now in Malaysia.

According to Manglapus, the DFA is now enforcing the 1988 hold-order list that was given to the department by the Presidential Commission on Good Government. "We are going back to the original hold-order list."

The Philippine embassy in Kuala Lumpur has reported to the home office that Cuenca, former chairman of the Construction and Development Corporation of the Philippines, applied for a passport from his post in Sabah.

Manglapus To Push Through With Foreign Trips

HK0201114190 Quezon City MALAYA in English 2 Jan 90 p 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus said last week his scheduled foreign trips this year will go on unlike those of President Aquino which were cancelled because of political instability caused by the December coup d'etat.

"The country will not fall just because I'm away," Manglapus said during an informal talk with reporters before New Year.

Countries to be visited by Manglapus this year includes Iran, Pakistan, Iraq, Israel, Australia, and New Zealand.

A ranking foreign affairs official said they are also arranging for Manglapus to visit some of the newly democratized countries in Europe, Poland, Hungary and East Germany.

Although the visits to Iran and Pakistan were originally scheduled "spring of 1990," a DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] official said they may have to reschedule them after the Ramadan, a month-long fasting for the Moslems, which will be in April.

Manglapus will be in Pakistan to attend the second meeting of his pet project, the International Conference of Newly-Restored Democracies.

Trade and assurance of a steady supply of oil at a reasonable price will top Mangalpus' agenda in Iran.

A DFA official said Manglapus also has to visit Iraq, which has strained relations with Iran, for a more balanced relations with the Persian Gulf countries.

The Israel visit was set to balance the recognition by the Philippines of the state of Palestine, which was objected to by Israel.

The official said with the cancellation of President Aquino's visits the Soviet Union, Spain and London (where the foreign secretary is expected to accompany her), Mangalpus will have more time for his own foreign trips, especially to the South Pacific and Eastern Europe.

Meanwhile, Undersecretary Pablo Suarez will also serve as chief coordinator under the new setup in the DFA.

The office of the chief coordinator, now temporarily headed by Ambassador Rodolfo Arizala who is concurrently director-general for Asia-Pacific Affairs, is considered powerful as it serves as a fulcrum in the DFA. It coordinates all activities, recommendations and decisions of all offices.

Ramos Views Possible Foreign Support for Coup

HK0301101190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Report by Jonathan Cristobal from Camp Aguinaldo]

[Text] The defense department and the military are thoroughly investigating the possible involvement of foreign individuals in the recent failed coup. This was announced by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos in a news conference held at Camp Aguinaldo. The investigation is

being carried out by a committee formed by the Defense department and headed by Defense Undersecretary Leonardo Quisumbing.

Based on the committee's initial investigation, several foreign nationals actively supported the rebel elements of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement and the Soldiers of the Filipino People, who were responsible for launching the failed 1 December coup attempt. Ramos, however, refused to name the countries these foreign nationals come from, or the particular method through which they gave their support to the mutineers. The defense secretary said it is too early to disclose the sensitive details of the investigation, but asserted that this information will be made public at the soonest possible time.

Ramos also said that only foreign individuals were involved in the case and no foreign governments or foreign powers aided the mutineers. He stressed that several countries and foreign governments expressed their support for the Aquino government at the height of the coup:

[Begin Ramos recording in English] There are no foreign powers and there are no foreign governments involved in the failed coup attempt supporting the rebels. However, I said, according to the preliminary findings of the Quisumbing committee, there are some foreigners, individuals. On the part of foreign governments, several of them, a great number of them in fact, provided moral support through their declarations to the Aquino government. This was the initial report given to me by the Quisumbing committee. So, there is a basis. But as I said, this could probably be just a few individuals. Let us look at their activities where it could be subject for investigation. [end recording]

Denies Foreign Powers Involved

HK0301115190 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1100 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos today denied linking foreign powers or foreign governments to the December failed coup. Ramos was reacting to newspaper reports quoting him as having said that there was a possibility that foreign powers were behind the last coup attempt. The defense chief said that on the contrary, foreign governments have expressed their full support to President Aquino.

Added Star Rank Eyed for Military Commanders

HK0201090390 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 31 Dec 89 p 8

[By M. Casayuran]

[Text] The Senate National Defense Committee has reported out for floor debate Senate Bill No. 911 designed to give an added star rank to generals manning the major services and area commands of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

If enacted into law, the measure as authored by Sen. John H. Osmena, will confer the rank of lieutenant generals, a three-star rank, from major generals, a two-star rank, to major service commanders of the AFP.

Sen. Ernesto M. Maceda, Seante national defense committee chairman, said the Senate's favorable action on the bill would also ensure a synchronized and consolidated military maneuver to arrest the headway that the insurgents have gained these past few years.

Several senators also saw the approval of the bill as one way of addressing the problems caused by the recent seven-day attempted coup.

Osmena said rationalization of the AFP organization would hopefully lead to a "well-coordinated and vigorous armed forces to overcome the intractable insurgency in the country."

The major service commands of the AFP are the Philippine Army (PA), Philippine Constabulary (PC), Philippine Navy (PN) and the Philippine Air Force (PAF).

Approval of the bill will result in the automatic upgrading of the five area commanders from their one-star rank as brigadier generals to two-star rank as major generals.

The five area commands are the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom), National Capital Region Defense Command (NCRDC), Southern Luzon command (Solcom), the Visayas command (Viscom), and the Western Command (Wescom).

Cebu Constabulary To Seize Unlicensed Radios

HK0201090190 Quezon City MALAYA in English 31 Dec 89 p 10

[Text] Cebu City—All Constabulary and police field commanders have been ordered to seize all unlicensed radio transceivers and illegal communication units intercepted at checkpoints in the Central Visayas.

The military earlier ordered setting up of mobile checkpoints in the region to intercept unlicensed firearms.

Brig. Gen. Raul Imperial, Central Visayas Constabulary and Police commander, said men manning checkpoints have been directed to seize illegal communication units in coordination with National Telecommunications Commission [NTC] representatives.

The confiscation of the unlicensed communication equipment is aimed at preventing rebel leaders, still at large, from using these communications units in coordinating with one another to mount another coup attempt.

Central Visayas NTC Director Danilo Sy said there are around 10,000 units registered and duly-licensed in the region.

Quezon Communist Rebels Allegedly Break Truce

HK0301034790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 3 Jan 90 p 8

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Camp Nakar, Lucena City—The Quezon constabulary command reported yesterday that the New People's Army (NPA) rebels violated the New Year ceasefire when they killed a policeman and militiaman and wounded two civilians last Jan. 1.

Col. Reynaldo Wycoco, Quezon constabulary commander, in his report to Brig. Gen. Evaristo G. Carino, Recom 4 PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief, said that Pfc. Virgilio Juacalla of the Tagkawayan police who is assigned as an aide of Mayor Vicente Salonbides Jr. was killed by suspected NPA rebels in barangay Magsaysay.

Two of his companions—his brother Nestor and Joel Pajilla of Dapitan, Cotabato and now resident in Tagkawayan—were seriously wounded.

Another truce violation was reported in Padre Burgos, Quezon when an an army-CAFGU [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit] team was ambushed by the rebels between Padre Burgos and Agdangan town also last Jan. 1.

Killed in the ambush was Milanio Porlay, a member of the citizen armed geographical unit attached with the 31st Infantry Battalion.

The army-CAFGU team headed by Sgt. Carlito Morales were on their way to Plaridel, Quezon, headquarters of the 31 Infantry Battalion, riding a passenger type jeep when they were ambushed.

Gen. Carino condemned the CCP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA-NDF [National Democratic Front] for their atrocities in spite of a ceasefire.

Carino ordered the filing of charges against the group of Gregorio Rosal alias Ka [Comrade] Roger for allegedly leading a raid in Sampaloc, Quezon last Dec. 18.

Communist Party Discusses East Bloc Movements

HK0201031590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 2 Jan 90 p 6

[By staff writer Julius Fortuna]

[Text] Filipino communists will continue their armed struggle toward establishing a Philippine-style socialist state, despite the downfall of communist parties in Eastern Europe, a theoretician of the local communist party said.

"The conditions in Eastern Europe are vastly different from ours," explained the theoretician, who uses the nom de guerre Marty Villalobos.

He is the first party official to break the silence of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) of recent developments in Eastern Europe, which, according to some Western analysts, presage the downfall of Marxist socialism.

Defending the party's espousal of socialism, Villalobos said, "This is the only road viable for people living in a backward colonial country."

Unlike many parts of the world, Villalobos said, the Philippine "Tinues to be confronted by "foreign control and feudal oppression." These twin problems, he pointed out, are not present in Eastern Europe and in other developed countries.

The CPP and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA), have been waging an armed struggle against the government since the party was founded on December 26, 1968.

The CPP's program for people's democratic revolution calls for the setting up of, first, a "national democratic stage," and then a socialist state.

"Our challenges are different, our strategy and tactics are therefore different," said Villalobos, who sources in the underground said has developed a reputation as a maverick for advocating urban uprising to capture state power.

Villalobos admitted that the developments in Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union were bound to have an "external effect on internal developments in the Philippines." He refused to elaborate.

Leading NPA Member Reportedly Surrenders

HK0401051590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] A leading New People's Army [NPA] member surrendered to authorities in Oriental Mindoro. Sel Baisa has the details:

[Begin recording] The report that reached Major General Ramon Montano's office said that Elsa Florentino, alias Comrade Michelle, surrendered to the barangay official of Maklalo, Oriental Mindoro and to the military official belonging to the 268th Philippine Constabulary Company. The surrendering rebel also disclosed the inhuman treatment of them by the NPA leadership of the province. She further said that many officials and members of their group will surrender in the near future. According to her, their group is responsible for many ambushes, and slayings of military officials in the province. [end recording]

$111-Million Trade Surplus With EC Reported

HK0201040590 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 2 Jan 90 p 2

["Indicator" column by researcher Purificacion D. Delfinado: "RP (Republic of the Philippines) Posts $111 M Trade Surplus with EC"]

[Text] Philippine trade with the European Community (EC) yielded a hefty surplus of $111 million in favor of the country during the first nine months of 1989, according to the latest statistics from the Central Bank (CB).

For the first three quarters of last year, Philippine exports to the EC, also known as the Common Market of France, West Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Luxembourg, Spain, Portugal and Greece, stood at $983 million. The country's imports to that part of the globe, on the other hand, amounted to only $872 million.

The $111 million surplus emerged 6.7% greater than the country's $104 million balance of trade (BOT) with the Common Market in 1988, the CB said. This, as export receipts expanded by 6.9% from the year-ago comparative level while import expenses rose by the same margin, it added.

The Common Market remained the country's third major trading partner, following the U.S. and Japan, during the period when it purchased 17% of all the Philippine exports, the monetary agency said. This level, though, was slightly lower than in the previous year when the Common Market purchased 17.8% of Philippine exports.

In country-to-country terms, it was the United Kingdom which absorbed the bulk of Philippine exports to the EC during the period in review. British purchases of local products generated $251 million of foreign exchange receipts for the country. The figure represents 25.5% of the country's total export earnings from the EC, the CB said.

Philippine trade with the EC was marred only by West Germany with which the country incurred a BOT deficit of $44 million. This was because from January to September of last year, Philippine imports from the Aryan nation stood at $294 million as against exports of only $250 million.

Ironically, West Germany has been the country's top trading partner in the EC since 1985. In 1988, Philippine trade with West Germany amounted to $618 million or 27% of total Philippine trade with the EC. This European country has also been the largest supplier of Philippine imports from the EC. In 1988, it accounted for 31% of total EC exports to the Philippines.

Philippine trade with the Common Market accounts for 87% of the country's trade with the whole of Europe, according to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

Philippine exports to the EC, the department further said, has been following a high five-year annual growth trend of 18.9%. In year-to-year terms, Philippine exports to the EC grew by 14.7% from $1.87 billion in 1987 to $1.25 billion in 1988, the department added.

It was also in 1988 when the top ten Philippine export products to the EC, valued at an aggregate of $81 million, accounted for a little more than half of the country's total exports for that period. The products exported that year were crude coconut oil, semiconductor devices, red lauan, plywood, copra, electronic microcircuits, transistors, garments and preserved tuna.

Philippine imports from the EC, however, grew faster than exports during the same comparative period. This was by 33% from $782 million in 1987 to $1.04 billion in 1988. The country's top imports from the EC during the period were aircraft parts, dice for semi-conductor devices, electronic components, watch parts, pharmaceutical products, milk and malt, the DTI said.

Thailand

Japanese Foreign Minister Meets Leaders

Further on Arrival

BK0301005590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama arrived in Bangkok yesterday to convey his country's desire to see 1990 as "The Year of Asia" with movements towards democracy and freedom like the changes in Eastern Europe last year.

The Japanese delegation's spokesman Seichi Kondo said last night that Japan is also seriously considering how it can become more actively involved in achieving a peaceful settlement in Cambodia.

The Japanese Foreign Minister will meet Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila today to discuss Cambodia. Japan believes that a resolution of the conflict is crucial to achieving "The Year of Asia."

With the current stalemate over Cambodia coinciding with dramatic changes in Eastern Europe, Mr Nakayama believes that Asia should take advantage of the easing of East-West tension, Mr Kondo said.

The Japanese Foreign Minister believes that Asia should apply the experiences in Eastern Europe to achieve positive developments in the region.

Mr Nakayama will discuss the impact of Eastern Europe on Asia with General Chatchai and ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi, Mr Kondo said.

Although Japanese business circles are now attracted by prospects in Eastern Europe, Mr Kondo said that in terms of grant aid, Eastern Europe's share will not affect aid given to Japan's traditional friends in Asia.

Regarding the Cambodian conflict, Mr Kondo said that in the past Japan had gone as far as saying that it was prepared to assist in the reconstruction of the war-torn country if a comprehensive political settlement were reached.

Japan now wants to contribute to the Cambodian peace process, he said.

"Japan has not come up with its own proposal. But we are wondering whether we can have one on our own, as Mr Nakayama is very interested in the Cambodian issue," Mr Kondo said.

"Now we are thinking of what to do to achieve the peace settlement itself," the spokesman said, adding that Mr Nakayama "may draw on some new plans" for Cambodian peace.

During his 30-minute meeting with Gen Chatchai this morning at Government House, Mr Nakayama will seek clarification of the Prime Minister's "battlefield to marketplace" peace initiative.

Mr Nakayama is also expected to exchange views with Gen Chatchai on recent peace proposals put forward by US Secretary of State James Baker and Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans.

He will meet ACM Sitthi for 90 minutes this afternoon to discuss Cambodia.

Chatchai Receives Nakayama

BK0301144790 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] According to Government Spokesman Suwit Yotmani, at 1000 today Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Kasemsamoson Kasemsi and Japanese Ambassador Hisahiko Okazaki accompanied visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and his party to call on Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan. The Japanese foreign minister and party are visiting Thailand as guests of the Foreign Ministry from 2-4 January. Also present at the meeting were Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri, minister attached to the prime minister's office, advisers to the prime ministers Phansak Winyarat and Surakiat Sathianthai, and Bowonsak Uwanno, deputy secretary general for political affairs to the prime minister.

The prime minister welcomed the visitors and expressed regret for not being able to visit Japan last November. They then discussed Japanese-Thai relations. The prime minister thanked the Japanese Government for assistance in the construction of an overpass on Rama Four Road.

The Japanese foreign minister said his government understood the reasons which forced the prime minister to cancel his visit to Japan. He said his government hopes the prime minister will be able to visit Japan in the near future after the 18 February Japanese general elections. He said although at the Paris Summit Japan expressed its intention to provide economic assistance to East European countries to show its support for democracy, Japan has no intention of cutting assistance to developing countries in Asia. In fact, he believes Japanese assistance will increase because Japanese foreign aid will increase if Japanese economic growth is maintained at 4 percent over the next 4 years.

The prime minister expressed pleasure at the Japanese explanation and added that the rapid changes in Europe will result in greater cooperation there, not just in the EC becoming a single market but also including Eastern Europe. As a result, the countries in this region, including Japan, should try to create a strong and permanent cooperative Asia-Pacific grouping. The prime minister noted that as Thailand enjoys a stable economy and close contact with the ASEAN and Indochinese countries and Burma, broader Japanese-Thai investment cooperation will enable Japan to considerably expand the market for its exports to those countries. [passage indistinct]

The Japanese foreign minister expressed the hope that the Cambodian problem can be effectively settled this year and stated his intention to cooperate with Thailand in solving the problem.

After the meeting, the prime minister presided over a ceremony to exchange documents on Japanese grant aid, which was signed on Thailand's behalf by Minister Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri and by the Japanese foreign minister. The grant involves construction of a 20-million baht overpass on Rama Four Road, Bangkok, the Police Department's 119-million baht criminal investigation project improvement, and 9-million baht procurement of equipment for TV Channel 11's education and cultural program.

KYODO on Chatchai Meeting

OW0301082790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0655 GMT 3 Jan 90

[By Yutaka Negishi]

[Text] Bangkok, Jan. 3 KYODO—Japan plans to send a Foreign Ministry official to Kampuchea for talks with leaders of the Vietnam-installed Hun Sen Government, a Japanese Government source said here Wednesday. The source, however, said the move does not mean Tokyo's recognition of the Vietnam-backed administration.

Like major Western nations and ASEAN member countries, Japan recognizes the Coalition Government of

Resistance Forces led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, which have been fighting Phnom Penh government troops since early 1979.

"We are planning to send an official to Phnom Penh for informal talks" with Hun Sen Government leaders at an early stage this year, the source said. The source said Japan's position was revealed in a 45-minute meeting Wednesday between Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan at the latter's office. Nakayama told Chatchai that Japan's policy toward Kampuchea "will remain unchanged." One Japanese source said, "We are sure that the resistance forces will understand Japan's position."

Japan plans to send an envoy to Phnom Penh as a joint chairman of a committee set up during international Kampuchean peace negotiations held in Paris last August, the source said. Japan and Australia share the chairmanship of the Committee for Reconstruction of Kampuchea.

Australia's Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs Michael Costello visited Phnom Penh last month to discuss Canberra's fresh peace initiative to end the 11-year-old war as fighting has been intensifying following Vietnam's troop withdrawal last September. Chatchai has also proposed a fresh round of Kampuchean peace negotiations.

In the meeting which was dominated by the regional conflict, Nakayama also said the Khmer Rouge should be allowed to join in a future national reconciliation government but that their role should be minimized. The radical leftist group, the strongest of the three guerrilla forces, is responsible for the deaths of more than 1 million people during its reign of terror between 1975 and 1979.

In the meeting, Chatchai underlined the importance of peace negotiations involving all four warring factions, according to Japanese officials. Nakayama arrived here Tuesday for a 3-day official visit to Thailand. He will also visit Malaysia before returning home Saturday.

On other topics, Chatchai expressed concern that Japan's economic aid to Southeast Asian countries may be cut off due to its pledge to help the faltering economies of East Europe.

"West European countries should take their initiative in helping East Europe. Japan's role in the Asian region is essential," Chatchai was quoted as telling Nakayama. "We need Japan's asssitance."

In response, Nakayama assured the Thai prime minister that Japan's official development assistance to Asian countries will not be cut back, according to Japanese sources. "We place the Asian region top on our priority list of economic assistance," Nakayama added.

Nakayama signed documents after the meeting with Chatchai, pledging grant aid totaling 738 million yen for Thailand. It will be used for construction of a fly-over spanning Bangkok's busiest boulevard, and other projects. This is Nakayama's first visit to Thailand since he became foreign minister last August. Japan has so far extended 750 billion yen (5.3 billion dollars) in low-interest loans and 130 billion yen in grants to Thailand. Japan is the largest aid donor, trading partner, and investor in Thailand.

Sitthi, Nakayama Hold Talks

BK0301151590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Somphong Faichampa, director of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, has reported on today's meeting between Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila and visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

The Thai and Japanese foreign ministers exchanged views on international issues and Thai-Japanese relations. On international issues, they discussed the changes in Eastern Europe. The Japanese foreign minister noted the trend of developing countries' assistance to Eastern Europe and the concern by certain sectors that current assistance to developing countries could be affected. Japan feels that assistance to Eastern Europe must not affect the developing countries which have already been receiving aid.

The two ministers also discussed Cambodia. Sitthi informed his Japanese counterpart that he had consulted with the Indonesian foreign minister about organizing another meeting of senior ASEAN officials to discuss solutions to the Cambodian problem. The Japanese foreign minister said considering the ongoing process, the Cambodian problem could be effectively solved within the year.

On bilateral relations, the Japanese foreign minister praised Thailand's progress. Sitthi proposed that a new meeting of the committee on readjustment of Thai-Japanese economic structure would be timely. He suggested that Japan consider opening its market to more Thai products and training Thai engineers and technicians. He said Japan played a role contributing to Thai economic growth, such as in investment cooperation and assistance. The Japanese foreign minister suggested that Japanese investors use more local raw products.

On the narcotics issue, Police Major Chaowalit Yotmani, secretary general of the Office of the Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Board, noted that Japan expressed readiness to help in the elimination of narcotics sources by assigning specialists to Thailand to assist in training and organization of conference and possibly giving grant of equipment. The specialists will visit Thailand in early 1990 to study assistance possibilities. The Thai foreign minister informed the Japanese visitor that it is Thailand's policy to earnestly suppress narcotics, as evidenced by its plan to enact a law to confiscate assets of traffickers.

KYODO Cites Talks on Cambodia

OW0301133690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1238 GMT 3 Jan 90

[By Yutaka Negishi]

[Text] Bangkok, Jan. 3 KYODO—ASEAN countries are considering holding a senior officials meeting to discuss the latest developments on the Kampuchean problem, Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said Wednesday. In a meeting with his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama, Sitthi said topics at the meeting may include a peace initiative recently put forward by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans.

Sitthi did not speculate when the meeting would be held, but Thai sources said it might be convened this month in Jakarta. In the latest peace initiative aimed at ending the 11-year-old war in Kampuchea, Evans proposed in November that the country be placed under United Nations trusteeship until general elections could be held there. He also suggested that the Kampuchean seat in the United Nations now held by a coalition government of resistance forces be declared vacant.

The Sitthi-Nakayama meeting coincided with a visit to Bangkok by Australia's Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs Michael Costello in yet another round of shuttle diplomacy exploring peace in Kampuchea. Costello visited Vietnam, Kampuchea, Thailand, and Indonesia last month in a bid to brief their leaders on Canberra's peace initiative. Costello is scheduled to meet Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan here Thursday, according to the Thai sources.

In a meeting with Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan earlier in the day, Nakayama also referred to the regional conflict and said Japan plans to send an envoy to Phnom Penh soon for talks with Kampuchean officials on economic rehabilitation projects which can be implemented after peace has been restored there. The official will be the first Japanese envoy to visit Kampuchea since Vietnam installed a pro-Hanoi Government in Phnom Penh in early 1979 which is not recognized by Japan, other major Western nations, and ASEAN countries.

Japan and Australia cochair a committee for reconstruction for Kampuchea which was set up in international Kampuchean peace negotiations, held in Paris last August. Referring to another regional problem, Nakayama assured Sitthi of greater Japanese assistance in combatting the drug problem, according to Japanese sources.

The sources said Nakayama specifically mentioned training of antinarcotics experts in Japan, sending Japanese experts to the region, and organizing professional seminars as possible areas of Japan's cooperation in fighting the problem.

"We are aware that poverty is the root cause of the problem," Nakayama was quoted as telling Sitthi. "We are ready to make extra efforts to combat the problem."

Thailand is a major traffic route for narcotics and other drugs to Malaysia and other countries in the region.

Nakayama, a physician by training, plans to go to New York next month to represent Japan at a special UN conference on drugs, the first such meeting ever organized by the international body. Nakayama was later given an audience with King Phumiphon Adunyadet at the Royal Palace here. Nakayama arrived here Tuesday for a 5-day visit to Thailand and Malaysia.

The drug issue is expected to be taken up in detail in a meeting between Nakayama and his Malaysian counterpart Omar Abu Hassan in Kuala Lumpur Thursday.

POST Summarizes Results of Visit

BK0401004990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Jan 90 pp 1, 3

[Text] Tokyo will send a team of mid-ranking Foreign Ministry officials to Phnom Penh to prepare for Japan's participation in reconstructing the Cambodian economy after a peace settlement.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama informed Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan of the planned fact-finding trip during their meeting at Government House yesterday.

Japanese delegation spokesman Seichi Kondo said the visit would be unofficial and informal, and would represent the first contact with Phnom Penh since 1979 when Japan severed diplomatic relations as Vietnam invaded Cambodia.

Heading the fact-finding team will be Masaharu Kohno, director of the first Southeast Asia Division. The trip could possibly be made as early as February.

The spokesman reiterated that the basic policy of Japan towards Cambodia remained unchanged, and the planned trip did not imply recognition of the Phnom Penh regime as the legitimate government.

According to Mr Kondo, Gen Chatchai told Mr Nakayama that military aid from outside countries was one of the major causes of the intensified, continuing civil war.

"Mr Nakayama told Gen Chatchai that this year should be characterised as the year for realisation of peace in Cambodia and Japan highly appreciates Gen Chatchai's initiative," Mr Kondo said.

Given the importance of the "positive and flexible attitudes" of the Soviet Union and China, Japan would like to take a positive role through dialogue with the two superpowers, he quoted Mr Nakayama as telling the Premier.

Mr Nakayama assured the Premier that "Japan would not extend aid to Eastern Europe at the expense of its existing aid to Asia".

Japan extends aid to Eastern Europe, believing that the easing of tension will eventually and inevitably have an impact on Asia, Mr Nakayama told Gen Chatchai.

Gen Chatchai told the Foreign Minister that while the West already stood by to take care of Eastern Europe, Japan's role in assisting Asia was of great importance because many developing countries in this region "still need Japan's help".

The Prime Minister is worried about a possible reduction of Japanese aid to Asia, and Thailand.

"Mr Nakayama stressed that Japan's economic aid policy to Asia won't change," Mr Kondo said, adding that next year's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Thailand would increase by eight per cent.

"Mr Nakayama assured Gen Chatchai that the ODA to Asia will not decrease as a result of Japan's commitment to Eastern Europe in accordance with the G7 [Group of Seven] meeting in Paris last year, and asked for his understanding," the spokesman said.

Mr Nakayama told Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila that Japan was fully aware of the concerns among Asian nations regarding its assistance to Eastern Europe.

Japan placed Thailand high on the priority list as a recipient of ODA, and in the area of economic cooperation, he said.

Japanese aid to Thailand in 1988 totalled $361 million for ODA and this year it has pledged to provide 81 billion yen in credit, according to the spokesman.

On the question of changes in Eastern Europe and their impact on Asia, ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi agreed with his Japanese counterpart that the trend is "irreversible".

"Thailand basically welcomed the changes in Eastern Europe, but ACM Sitthi added that the situation in Asia is slightly different. We can anticipate some changes in Asia to be done on Asians' own initiatives of self-determination," Mr Kondo quoted ACM Sitthi as saying.

ACM Sitthi said perestroyka and glasnost in Asian socialist countries would be different from those in Eastern Europe.

Socialist countries in Asia seem to have tightened up the guard on their own regimes.

Michai 'Quietly' Resigns From Cabinet Position

BK0401003790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 Jan 90 p 1

[By THE NATION political reporters]

[Text] PM's Office Minister Michai Ruchuphan quietly tendered his resignation from the Chat Thai-led Cabinet yesterday, delivering another political blow to the ruling coalition, authoritative sources told THE NATION.

Premier Chatchai Chunhawan reportedly summoned Michai, PM's Secretary General Gen Panya Singsakda and his advisers, including Phansak Winyarat and Surakiat Sathisanthai, to his residence last night amid speculation that the premier planned to move the minister to the post of PM's secretary general, replacing Gen Panya Singsakda. The premier, according to the speculation, intended to find another political post for Gen Panya.

Contacted by THE NATION late last night, Government Spokesman Suwit Yotmani confirmed that the premier accepted Michai's resignation yesterday evening.

"Minister Michai resigned for personal reasons. He told the premier that he had served as a minister for a decade now and considered it the time to bow out to pave the way for another to assume his post," Suwit said.

The spokesman quoted the premier as saying that Michai would be appointed PM's adviser because the outgoing minister was very experienced after serving in many cabinets. He said it was not known as yet as to who will replace Michai.

"It's probable that the premier will leave the post vacant for the moment," Suwit said.

Suwit denied any knowledge of the rumour that Gen Panya would be removed from his present political post.

In another development, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday morning told the premier he would not accept his offer for him to join the Cabinet after resigning from the armed forces. Gen Chawalit was quoted by an informed source as saying that as a soldier, he did not want to involve himself in politics as yet.

Michai was quoted as saying he was "unhappy" with the government which has been increasingly criticized for alleged rampant corruption.

A source close to him admitted that the minister had become increasingly frustrated as he felt that he was being "used" by the Chat Thai Party. The source refused to elaborate.

Another reason cited to explain Michai's frustration is that in the latter months, Chatchai has been increasingly relying on Amon Chantharasombun, chairman of the

Juridical Council for legal counsels in Cabinet meetings. Michai was the legal adviser of Premier Chatchai during the first months of the administration.

But another source said that Michai decided to resign because the premier planned to remove him from the Cabinet post and give him Gen Panya's post. "Michai considers it a demotion because his ministerial rank is higher than that of the PM's secretary general," the source said.

The plan is thought to be part of a Cabinet reshuffle under Chatchai's consideration. Michai's removal will allow the premier to appoint another Cabinet member.

"I guess the planned removal was linked to Gen Chatchai's attempt to court Gen Chawalit into his Cabinet," commented one informed source who asked not to be identified.

Gen Chatchai, the source said, also questions Gen Panya's loyalty because the PM's secretary general has close connection with Interior Minister Praman Adireksan, who is now engaged in an internal power play with the premier.

Michai could not be reached for comments last night.

The sources did not say when Michai's resignation would take effect. But it is understood it would be effective as soon as it was accepted by the prime minister. Michai may not report for work at Government House today, expecting the government to announce his resignation for him, the source said.

A legal expert who formerly served under ex-premier Gen Prem Tinsulanon, Michai is the only non-partisan member in the Cabinet. He was appointed to the post under the quota of the Chat Thai Party, in part because of his legal expertise and also due to his close connections with Chat Thai secretary general Banhan Sinlapaacha.

Michai's resignation came a week after Democrat Party leader Phichai Rattakun quit as deputy prime minister. Phichai's resignation was a major blow to the Chatchai government whose stability had already been threatened with party conflicts.

Chatchai has triggered even more speculation with his offer of either the interior or defence portfolio to Gen Chawalit. The premier also urged the general to stand in a by-election under the Chat Thai banner.

Sources said Gen Chawalit has already informed the premier of his decision not to accept his offer. "He feels that continued confusion would portray him as a power-seeker," said one source who asked not to be named.

Gen Chawalit let Chatchai know of his decision during their weekly meeting at the latter's Ratchakhru residence yesterday. Air Force Commander-in-Chief ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin and Navy Commander-in-Chief Adm Praphat Krisanachan also called on the premier yesterday morning.

However, Gen Chatchai told reporters that his offer for Gen Chawalit to take over the defence portfolio still stands. "I told him from the very beginning that I would keep the defence portfolio for him," Chatchai said.

The premier refused to comment on Gen Chawalit's rejection of the offer. "I don't know. You have to ask Gen Chawalit," he said.

Gen Chawalit is expected to resign from the military soon to enter politics.

Opposition Solidarity MP Chamni Sakset, meanwhile, said that Chatchai's remark that he preferred Gen Chawalit to Gen Praman, his brother-in-law as his successor was designed to dampen the Opposition's campaign for an extraordinary session of the House to grill the government for alleged corruption and incompetence.

The Nakhon Si Thammarat MP said the premier was only attempting to "defuse a looming political time bomb".

"The premier is aware that the success or failure of our campaign hinges on whether senators (many of whom are military officers) would second our motion," said the Solidarity deputy secretary general.

Chamni urged Gen Chawalit to enter politics with the public mandate through an election, and not with the support from the premier.

Praman Comments on Future Cabinet Position

BK0101013390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] Interior Minister Praman Adireksan, whose political future appears to be hanging in the balance, said yesterday he was ready to be moved to another portfolio.

But he insisted that his preference was his current post.

"I am an MP and am ready to go anywhere," he said when asked to comment on a wild speculation that he might be removed from the Interior Ministry.

Informed sources in Chat Thai Party said the political events of the past week have led Praman to soften his stand.

Praman, who commands a sizable faction in Chat Thai Party, had assumed an uncompromising stand vis-a-vis Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan who is the party leader. Praman often made decisions without consulting Chatchai.

For Chatchai, the last straw was probably the way Praman rammed through the Cabinet the appointment

of Thamrong Phatthanarat as city clerk. The appointment led to the resignation of Deputy Premier Phichai Rattakun last week.

Phichai's resignation triggered a wild speculation that Chatchai might reshuffle the Cabinet and remove Praman from the Interior Ministry, making him a deputy prime minister—a post that would give him far less authority.

Sources in the Chat Thai Party said Chatchai planned to offer the interior portfolio to Army Commander in Chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut who is expected to quit the army early this year.

The sources said Praman found that his bargaining power is not as strong as before, especially with Gen Chawalit coming into the picture.

When asked during a birthday-cum-New Year party at his residence yesterday whether he was ready to accept the deputy premiership, Praman said he would perform his duty to the best of his ability wherever he was.

The sources said Praman, who is chairman of the party's advisory board, often made Chatchai feel uneasy because of his political assertiveness that was at times on the verge of being defiant.

Praman last year even hinted that he had a desire on the premiership.

The interior minister, who is the former Chat Thai leader, said Chatchai had not discussed Cabinet reshuffle with him.

"The prime minister has the prerogative to move me anywhere... But I am happy with my present post," said Praman who was targetted by the opposition bloc for a no-confidence debate for alleged corruption.

The minister yesterday conspicuously stayed away from a New Year's gathering of Chat Thai members at Chatchai's Ratchakhru residence.

Banhan Sinlapa-acha, the party's secretary general, addressed the gathering and called for support for the prime minister.

Banhan, who is industry minister, commands another faction in the Chat Thai Party and his support for Chatchai is crucial.

Describing Chatchai as a "thoughtful, decisive and patient" leader, Banhan said the prime minister's style of leadership "has proved wrong predictions by political pundits that his administration would create political tensions and disunity."

Chatchai commended Chat Thai Cabinet members for their performance. "They have worked hard and done no damage... Whoever has yet to become Cabinet member better prepare himself," he said without elaborating.

Speaking to reporters afterward, Chatchai said he expected the political situation in the new year to improve.

He described as "good" the political relationship among the six coalition parties. "Everybody has to help uphold democracy," he said.

Chatchai said all the coalition party leaders had been invited to a dinner with him last night.

Chatchai Wants Chawalit To Become Next Premier

BK0201004990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Premier Chatchai Chunhawan has declared that army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, and not Interior Minister Praman Adireksan, can succeed him as prime minister, according to a local newspaper.

DAILY NEWS quoted Chatchai as saying in an exclusive interview last week that Praman, the 76-year-old chairman of the Chat Thai Party's advisory team, is too old to become premier.

Chatchai said he intended to bring Gen Chawalit into the Cabinet after the latter resigns from the military. He said Chawalit will later run in a by-election under the banner of Chat Thai.

Gen Chawalit's appointment as a minister and his subsequent election to the House will pave the way for his ascension to the premiership, Chatchai said.

"It's not easy to be premier. Take my case as an example, I became prime minister in my early 70's," he said.

Asked about speculation that Gen Chawalit will resign from the military service this year, Gen Chatchai said he wished the acting supreme commander would quit to help him take care of either the defence or interior portfolio depending on the army chief's choice.

"But honestly, I prefer him to replace me as defence minister who has to oversee the army, the navy, the air force and the supreme command," said Chatchai who is concurrently also a defence minister.

Asked what portfolio Praman would be appointed to if Gen Chawalit is made interior minister, Chatchai said that Praman in that case would be transferred to the Defence Ministry.

The premier also said that in a political crisis, he would opt for stepping down rather than dissolving the House of Representatives to pave the way for a snap general election.

"I will resign because when I assumed the premiership, I thought that I would be able to stay at the helm for three months only but I am now in my second year," Chatchai said.

The premier also complained that he has been working until the wee hours every night since taking office in August, 1988.

He said he would resign when he became seriously ill or tired of his work.

Chatchai said a Cabinet reshuffle is always possible and normal in a democracy but suggested that he would have to listen to others and can provide good reasons for such a move.

In the interview, Chatchai also clarified on his previous statements that the functions of some of the ministries should be divided as part of a bureaucratic reform.

He said that the Labour Department should be seceded from the Interior Ministry and upgraded into a ministry while the Crime Suppression Division and the Special Branch Division should be grouped together to become the Thai version of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which would come under Government House.

"My idea is to set up a check-and-balance system to make sure that the Police Department will function effectively," he said.

Chatchai said that an alternative to the transfer of the Crime Suppression Division and the Special Branch Division to Government House is to upgrade the Police Department into a ministry.

The Communications Ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives should also be split, Chatchai said.

He added that the Communications Ministry's responsibility is now too diverse, ranging from bus operations to satellite affairs. Meanwhile, the agriculture and the cooperatives affairs should also be split under two different ministries, the premier added.

Defending his proposal that the constitutional restriction of the Cabinet posts to 44 should be updated, Chatchai said that in a certain country, its government comprises about 100 Cabinet members.

POST Views Chawalit's Future

BK0301013390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Jan 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Chawalit Treading a Tricky Political Path"]

[Text] There has been intermittent talk over the last few years about the possibility of General Chawalit Yongchaiyut retiring early from his military service to enter politics. Such speculation was prompted in large part by the general's own professed intention to step down from his dual role as army commander and acting supreme commander before his mandatory retirement age of 60. In fact Gen Chawalit first made his early-retirement pledge as far back as the early 1980s when he was Army Operations director. He also made the same promise on numerous occasions since he assumed the army's top post in mid-1986, reportedly to give other senior officers immediately below him the opportunity for promotion.

Although the military chief has refrained from making any public comment of late, discussion of the topic is back in vogue following the latest remarks by Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan. In a published interview with a Thai-language nespaper, Gen Chatchai reportedly stated that he would like to see the military leader as his successor in the premiership but that Gen Chawalit should first join the ruling coalition government as defence minister and run for a House of Representatives seat in a by-election under the Chat Thai Party ticket. It was unclear whether Gen Chatchai had informed the military chief of the plan prior to the press interview; but coming from a man of the prime minister's stature, the statement could not be taken lightly.

There is little dispute that Gen Chawalit is qualified for the job of defence minister. Although his frequent public comment on topics other than military matters might have overshadowed his real achievement in the military field, Bangkok-based foreign military experts have given the general credit for instituting a series of little-publicised programmes to modernise the armed forces, bolster their fighting capability and streamline professionalism as well as discipline among the military rank-and-file. Logically, the prime minister could devote himself to tending to other important affairs of state if he were to hand his concurrent post of defence minister over to Gen Chawalit.

But for the military chief to succeed him in the premiership is quite a different matter. He would probably have little difficulty in winning a parliamentary by-election as and when he retires from active military service and is made defence minister and, in this respect, Gen Chatchai was right in suggesting that he should aim to become an MP to fully qualify him for a role in national politics. In fact people around Gen Chawalit also believe this to be his intention. But the road to the premiership is unlikely to be strewn with roses—regardless of whether Gen Chawalit were to join Chat Thai or another existing party or even set up his own party.

Thailand's political history might have been marked by a series of precedents involving army commanders who made a direct jump into the national political leadership but it would appear that this tradition ended with former prime minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon. This should be regarded as a positive development; it is to be hoped and expected that any repetition of such a tradition will become less and less likely as the country's political system progressively matures.

If indeed Gen Chawalit were to join the Chat Thai Party and manage to muster sufficient support to become its next leader, and if the party were to emerge with the largest number of House seats in the next election, there

would then be no obstacle to his assuming the premiership. But if things did not work out as planned, the military leader would have to abide by, and play, according to the current rules of the political game. As a self-professed gentleman who has assured the public on a number of occasions that there would be no coup while he is around as military boss, we believe Gen Chawalit would be prepared to display the same political spirit and sportsmanlike qualities and take his chances if and when the time comes.

Implications of Chawalit Premiership

BK0301024390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Jan 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Chawalit, the Saviour?"]

[Text] Premier Chatchai Chunhawan's naming of Army chief Chawalit Yongchaiyut as his political heir apparent in a newspaper interview just as 1990 was approaching must be seen as a clever ploy aimed first of all at strengthening his badly divided Chat Thai Party. For by co-opting the general, who intends to leave the military this year, the core government party will automatically receive the backing of the Army.

Other senior party executives can see the advantage of having Gen Chawalit on their side. Thus, even Interior Minister Praman Adireksan is ready—though not very willing—to relinquish his post if Gen Chawalit prefers it to the defence portfolio offered him by the premier.

The premier has reportedly assured Gen Chawalit that the premiership will be his under two conditions: First, he must join the Chat Thai and serve either as interior or defence minister for a while. And second, he must try to win a by-election whenever one is held so that he will enjoy the respect of being an elected representative when he becomes the next premier.

The deal seems irresistible. But so far Gen Chawalit has declined to comment on it. And most probably he will turn it down for a number of reasons.

Party insiders say Premier Chatchai's faction within the Chat Thai Party has been at odds with Praman's. The premier has the support of secretary-general and industry minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha but not of deputy leader Pramuan Saphawasu, the outspoken finance minister who leads a faction of his own. By co-opting Gen Chawalit, the premier will pit the general against Praman, who isn't known to be too popular in military circles.

If Gen Chawalit edges out Praman and takes over the interior post, he will pretty much alienate Praman's faction, whose support he will need when he rises to the premiership. In fact, it is uncertain whether a new-comer like Gen Chawalit would enjoy unanimous support from all factions in the largest government party. Even Premier Chatchai himself doesn't have much control over MPs in Praman's and Pramuan's factions.

Another uncertainty is that nobody knows when Premier Chatchai will step down. Although he often refers to his age (he will turn 70 on April 5), his plan to bring Gen Chawalit in indicates that he wants to stay on for a while—perhaps until the end of his four-year term in mid-1992. Gen Chawalit may not like to wait under a cloud of uncertainty.

Gen Chawalit has nothing to lose if he ignores the premier's generous offer. Instead of coming to the premier's rescue, the Army chief may choose to wait and see how much political damage the opposition will inflict on the Chatchai administration.

The opposition has been rallying for support to open an extraordinary parliamentary session to debate corruption charges against several Cabinet members. By saying that all senators can decide for themselves whether or not to endorse the opposition's call, the Army chief has left the door open for senators to join opposition leaders in attacking the government on corruption charges. Even if they fail to gather enough votes to force a special parliamentary session, the opposition leaders will undoubtedly introduce an urgent motion to censure the entire Cabinet when Parliament reconvenes in early May.

If the damage is too serious, Premier Chatchai will come under a lot of pressure to resign. If he resigns, a large number of MPs will turn to invite Gen Chawalit to be premier. But a better scenario as far as Gen Chawalit is concerned is a House dissolution. That will give Gen Chawalit the best opportunity to build a new party of his own and lead it into a general election. And of course he would expect his party to win enough seats in the House to support him as the next premier.

Naming a powerful figure as one's successor is a common practice among top office-holders to ensure an orderly transition. Two weeks ago Gen Chawalit basically named his influential deputy, Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, the next Army chief by expressing such an opinion publicly.

And if Gen Chawalit does succeed Premier Chatchai, he will more than likely name Gen Suchinda his political heir apparent.

So long as the loosely organized political party system cannot produce commonly acceptable leaders, the Army appears the only source where such a leader can be found. This isn't what democracy is all about. In fact, it constitutes a snub to all "people's representatives" in the House. They must now face the very embarrassing question of why they cannot produce a political leader through the normal parliamentary system.

We hope leaders of all political parties will be able to give us a good reason why we have to continue to live with such a state of affairs.

Editorial Views Chawalit as Premier

BK0301091290 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 3 Jan 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Chatchai's Remark"]

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan has finally said publicly that he wanted Army Commander and acting Supreme Commander Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut to become the next prime minister on condition that Gen Chawalit first accept the post of defense or interior minister and then run as a Chat Thai Party candidate for a seat as member of parliament.

Gen Chatchai's remark amounts to a direct invitation to Gen Chawalit to join the Chat Thai Party and an attempt to preempt other parties that might try to enlist Gen Chawalit.

There has been some speculation about Gen Chawalit's future. Some say if Gen Chawalit enters politics, he will form his own political party, while others say Gen Chawalit might join one of the following parties: the Solidarity, Ratsadon, or the Chat Thai Party.

Why are those parties so eager to enlist Gen Chawalit as a member? The answer is that those parties feel Gen Chawalit has national leadership quality. That is, he is financially and politically ready. He has made social contributions and is well known. Most importantly, he is accepted by the military. As past examples showed, prime ministers who did not have acceptance by the military were never able to lead a stable government.

The next question is: Why is Gen Chatchai so confident that the Chat Thai Party will continue to govern if Gen Chawalit joins it? The answer is that Gen Chatchai is confident the Chat Thai Party will gain the greatest number of parliamentary seats, if not absolute majority, in the next general election and, therefore, the party will form the core of the next government.

Gen Chatchai's remark about Gen Chawalit could also be interpreted as a warning to other coalition parties not to be excessively arrogant or unruly.

Therefore, Gen Chatchai's remark has two angles to it.

Editorial Examines Chatchai Administration

BK2912023789 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Dec 89 p 9

[Editorial: "Surviving on Expediency"]

[Text] Deputy Premier Phichai Rattakun's resignation has caused a crisis that no one in the Chatchai administration would publicly admit. Premier Chatchai Chunhawan told reporters yesterday it was no big deal. Yet the scheduled meeting of the Economic Cabinet was abruptly cancelled as the premier's men and senior Democrat ministers tried to repair the damage.

Stranger still was Phichai's contention that his reasons for quitting were "personal" in nature rather than political. He says he will stay on as leader of the Democrat Party until the end of his term next December while his party remains a partner in the Chatchai coalition.

And strangest of all, the city clerk designate, Thamrong Phatthanarat suddenly decided to decline the top bureaucratic post at the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, reasoning that he didn't want to get his superiors, particularly, Interior Minister Praman Adireksan, and the Cabinet into further trouble.

What trouble?

Phichai on Wednesday [27 December] asked the Cabinet to reconsider the controversial appointment of Thamrong, which was pushed through the Cabinet meeting by Praman on Dec 12. Phichai was absent when the issue came up and has since voiced his disapproval of it. But his request to review the issue on Wednesday didn't receive any support from other Cabinet ministers—not even from any Democrats. One Chat Thai minister even rebuked him for "not talking sense" and trying to undo unilaterally what the Cabinet had already agreed upon.

Phichai insisted that he was a sensible man and then walked out of the Cabinet meeting room. He tendered his resignation soon afterwards. Surprisingly, none of the other senior Democrat ministers followed suit. They made it abundantly clear that if Phichai wanted to quit, it was his personal business.

They will stay with the Chatchai coalition because the party executive committee last week resolved to stick with this administration in spite of what PM's Office Minister Suphattra Matsadit, a Democrat party executive, described as "numerous, snowballing problems" inside the six-party coalition. So these Democrat ministers were following their party's resolution, whereas Phichai broke away for "personal reasons".

If the Democrat ministers were truly perturbed by the "numerous, snowballing problems", they have missed a golden opportunity to show their moral responsibility by disassociating themselves from the Chat Thai-led coalition.

Also difficult to comprehend was Phichai's decision to serve out his last year as party leader even though no Democrat ministers defended him in the Cabinet. This must have irked Phichai. But should he also step down from the party leadership, it would be too obvious that he was angry with his own people. That could be a crippling blow to the public image of the country's oldest party, and would also tarnish the Chatchai administration.

Why, then, did Thamrong decide, to decline the appointment he had earlier tried to obtain? It may be that Thamrong's surprise decision was part of a deal to justify the Democrat ministers' decision to stay with the Chatchai coalition. Without it, Phichai's resignation

would have been in vain; the Democrats could be criticized for clinging to power instead of helping their leader oppose wrongdoing in government.

However, what is still worrying is the obvious lack of collective responsibility on the part of this Cabinet and the poor leadership of the premier which enabled Praman to ram Thamrong's appointment through without any minister raising an objection. When Phichai belatedly tried, he found no support. The Cabinet, especially his own Democrat ministers, would rather see him go than rally behind him.

This crisis once again exposes how fragile the Chatchai administration is. All the short-term expedients hurriedly introduced to contain the crisis merely buy a little more time and some breathing space for Premier Chatchai until the next crisis develops. The little time gained may not be enough for the premier to acquire sufficient courage to exert his leadership and stand up against wrongdoing and corruption.

Dailies Comment on Phichai Resignation

BK3012141989

[Editorial Report] Three Thai dailies, including NAEO NA, MATICHON, and SIAM RAT, on 29 December carry three editorials and a column on Democrat Party leader Phichai Rattakun's resignation as deputy prime minister, which followed the Cabinet's failure to accept Phichai's request to reconsider the controversial appointment of Thamrong Phatthanarat as Bangkok city clerk.

NAEO NA's 600-word editorial on page 5, entitled: "The Direction of the Democrat Party," speaks in praise of the resignation of Democrat Party leader Phichai Rattakun as deputy prime minister, and suggests that as a matter of etiquette, the ministers from the Democrat Party should resign en masse. The cause for Phichai's decision to resign was the cabinet's decision to appoint Thamrong Phatthanarat as Bangkok city clerk. "Phichai has the right to be in doubt about the appointment, because the appointment shows several irregularities." On 19 September, the cabinet agreed to delay the appointment of the Bangkok city clerk until the election of a new Bangkok governor on 7 January, 1990. However, on 12 December, the cabinet reversed its previous decision and appointed Thamrong to the post summarily. The interior minister's proposal for the appointment was not put on the agenda of the cabinet meeting on that day, but it was raised for consideration when Phichai left the meeting room. This appointment has been widely criticized as violating political courtesy. Some academics have signed a letter protesting the appointment. As a result, Phichai has the right to ask the cabinet to reverse the 12 December decision, because only by doing so will people believe that the cabinet stands for integrity. "When the majority in the cabinet wants to protect their own faces rather than integrity, Phichai is correct in choosing to resign," the editorial says.

The editorial concludes by saying "we hope that this page of political history will remind us to be more cautious. Political etiquette is a delicate thing and can affect the people's feelings easily and quickly. Other government coalition parties may see that the Democrat Party is not able to manage its own survival, but the people in general see that the Democrat Party still has its solid ideologies."

MATICHON's 700-word editorial on page 8, entitled "Phichai's Resignation: a Question to the Democrat Party and Chat Thai Party," says that Phichai's sudden resignation is a political move which can occur normally in the democratic system when there is a conflict of principles between two sides. Noting that Phichai decided to resign after his request for the cabinet to review its decision on the city clerk appointment was not accepted, the editorial says that the resignation was an expression of political spirit, which should be a good model for the politicians in the parliamentary system. The editorial goes on to ask how the Democrat Party will modify its position when Phichai has relied on principles in line with the majority of the people on the cabinet decision.

The editorial concludes that "however, this incident is another lesson on the workings of the cabinet and the relations between the government coalition partners. If there is no improvement and the status quo remains unchanged—everyone just minding his own business and not caring what other people are doing—conflicts which will affect the stability of the government can still arise at any time."

SIAM RAT's 600-word editorial on page 8, entitled "Time for the Democrat Party To Pull Out," says that "Phichai Rattakun, Democrat Party leader, tendered his resignation as deputy prime minister on the night of 27 December. By political etiquette, the Democrat Party should withdraw from the government in order to allow the prime minister to improve his cabinet. We see that several positions should be reshuffled in line with the principles of the democratic system." The editorial also says that Phichai's resignation was a result of political, not personal, reasons. It was an issue of principles. If the Democrat Party, in its meeting on 29 December, still decides to remain in the government, it will destroy the chance to revive the party's reputation in Bangkok and totally discredit Phichai's sacrifice.

The editorial concludes by noting that if we have a democratic system, it will be based on integrity, order, and principles in both the laws and traditions; not based on personal interests. As a result, we hope that Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan's government will realize this and do something to prevent such frauds."

SIAM RAT's Soi Suan Phlu column by former Prime Minister M.R. Khukrit Pramot on page 9 says that

"Phichai's resignation was a correct move in a democratic system. No one can fault him on that. The resignation can serve as a good example for the politicians in the Thai political system." It was a sacrifice to uphold the integrity of Thailand's democracy. The column also discusses several options for the Democrat Party, such as doing nothing and continuing to stay with the Chatchai government; nominating a replacement to fill Phichai's post of deputy prime minister; showing their solidarity with their party leader by leaving the coalition government en masse; or sacking Phichai from the party leadership and electing a new leader, and then having him take over the deputy premiership as well—a rather cruel move, and not one he would endorse.

Chawalit-Hun Sen 'Secret Contacts' Reported

BK3112011089 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Dec 89 p 8

[From the "Inprint" column]

[Text] KHAO PHISET, meanwhile, said that Army chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut had made secret contacts with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen and Defence Minister Tie Banh in an attempt to solve the Cambodian problem.

The weekly said Gen Chawalit only last week received good news from the Phnom Penh leaders that peace will surely come to the war-torn country next year. This, it said, means that Phnom Penh is ready to accept some conditions which have had hindered peace talks for years.

Gen Chawalit, it said, had sent Armed Forces Inspector-General Gen Phat Akkhanitbut to Beijing for talks with Chinese military leaders, who support the Khmer Rouge.

In the military eyes, security along the Thai-Cambodian border is significant. One major step was attained when Vietnamese troops withdrew from Cambodia and fighting is now occurring deep inside Cambodia.

In Gen Chawalit's eyes, when peace is secured, the next step will be sending home over 300,000 Cambodian refugees. When that is done, the focus will be on Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's policy to turn the Indochina battleground into a marketplace.

KHAO PHISET said several groups were too quick to launch a business offensive in Indochina. Gen Chawalit, it said, feared that only a handful of people would benefit from this offensive. He cited the logging deal with Burma as an example.

Gen Chawalit, the weekly claimed, felt that Hun Sen's widely publicised visits to Bangkok only benefitted the Phnom Penh leader in terms of propaganda. Secret contacts made by Gen Chawalit would be more effective in solving the Cambodian problem, the weekly added.

Footnote: KHAO PHISET said the image of the Khmer Rouge was not as bad as many had thought. The weekly claimed that since the beginning of this year, the Khmer Rouge has freed more than 5,000 Heng Samrin troops earlier held for rehabilitation. The release of these prisoners would boost the image of the Khmer Rouge, it said.

Burmese General Seeks Thai Cooperation

BK0401024190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Tak—The Burmese army yesterday sought Thai cooperation and understanding for its military offensive aimed at wiping out all bases of the armed Karen forces from the common border area.

A Burmese field commander in Pa-an, Brig-Gen Maung Hla, told a delegation of 15 Thais led by Maj-Gen Somchit Bunyasup, chairman of the Thai-Burmese coordinating committee based in Tak, that Rangoon wanted to see the success of its operations as quickly as possible.

The Burmese offensive requires cooperation and understanding by the people of the two neighbouring countries to secure its success, he said.

Rangoon also ordered the elimination of other armed Burmese ethnic groups from the area bordering the two countries, Brig-Gen Maung Hla told the Thai delegation during its one-day official visit to Burma's Myawadi bordertown to celebrate the Burmese independence day today.

Somchit later told local reporters that he had raised with the Burmese authorities the Thai demand for Bt [baht] 19 million in compensation for damages caused by stray Burmese shells early last year.

Brig-Gen Maung Hla said the case was still pending the government's decision.

Somchit said Thailand would call for another joint team to survey other Thai villages in Tak affected by Burmese operations last year against the Karens.

Burma also expressed its willingness to welcome back those illegal Burmese workers and dissident students, who are stranded in Mae Sot, according to Somchit.

Editorial Examines Actions on Oil Prices

BK0401031790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 Jan 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Politics and Oil Pricing"]

[Text] In late November 1988, the Chatchai administration gave the country a New Year present by lowering the retail prices of petroleum products. Now, after the prices of crude oil have risen by 18-23 percent, the government is under growing financial pressure to increase the retail petrol prices after its Oil Fund went in the red toward the end of last month. It will cost the government at least Bt [baht] 20 million a day in consumer subsidy to keep the prices at their present level.

The government now realizes that it cannot continue the subsidy programme indefinitely. Yet it is reluctant to raise prices, fearing a strong public backlash. While the motorists will feel the direct bite of a petrol price increase, consumers in general will also be affected as the price increase will flow through causing prices of food and consumer goods to rise.

After a petrol price increase, all producers will try to raise the prices of their products to compensate for the increased production costs. In many cases they increase prices just to make extra profit. On the other hand, a petrol price cut, like the one in November 1988, hardly induced the producers to lower their prices.

The government claims it has already maintained control over the prices of 40 basic food items and consumer goods as part of its ongoing anti-inflationary measures. But it is still doubtful whether such government control will remain intact after a petrol price rise.

The Chatchai administration has enjoyed political credit from cutting the petrol prices and from the rapid rate of economic expansion last year. The estimated 10.8 percent growth rate was made possible partly by the subsidized petrol, which has kept petrol prices in Thailand relatively cheaper than in many other countries in this region even though Thailand has to import most of its petroleum products (except natural gas). Domestic oil consumption rose by a heavy 16 percent last year—compared to an average of only 2 percent in all non-communist countries.

Now PM's Office Minister Kon Thappharangsi is talking about the need to bring Thailand back to reality—which in plain language means higher petrol prices. The National Energy Policy Committee, chaired by Premier Chatchai Chunhawan, will meet next Monday [8 January] to decide on what to do about the petrol prices.

The premier's committee faces a dilemma. If it chooses to continue the subsidy, it will no doubt indirectly encourage more oil consumption and drain the national coffers by at least Bt7.2 billion a year. This is basically unfair to the large majority of Thais who own no vehicles or motorized machinery. On the other hand, if it lets petrol prices rise reflecting the increased cost of imported crude oil, it will suffer the wrath of angry motorists and general consumers.

Compounding this dilemma is the growing uncertainty within the Chatchai administration about its own future. Premier Chatchai was so insecure that he tried, unsuccessfully so far, to co-opt retiring Army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut into his Chat Thai Party, offering him either the defence or interior portfolio plus an assurance that the premiership will be his in due time.

Since the government already knew that it's time for Thailand to return to reality and face higher petrol prices, it should also have the wisdom to see that it's also time to stop manipulating petrol prices for political purposes. A price increase, though politically painful for the government and economically painful to the general public, seems inevitable. It is definitely more sensible than the unfair oil price subsidy.

As the domestic petrol retail trade is dominated by only four oil companies, it .nay be necessary to maintain government control over retail petrol prices so the companies cannot increase prices at will or fix prices at unreasonably high levels.

In the long run, however, the government must continue to promote more competition in the retail petrol trade. The growth of the state-owned Petroleum Authority of Thailand and the arrival of several new foreign oil companies in the Thai market, we hope, will increase competition.

The ultimate goal is to float petrol prices with the fluctuation in crude oil prices on the world market.

The government must stop playing politics with retail petrol pricing and let market forces play their natural role as soon as possible.

Coffee Growers Block Rail Lines in South

BK2812030989 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Dec 89 p 1

[Text] Three Bangkok-bound trains from the South were stranded last night in Chumphon province when hundreds of coffee growers blocked the Phetkasem Highway and the railway line demanding higher coffee prices, police and railways officials reported.

The protest took place shortly after Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said in Bangkok yesterday that he had asked the Finance and Commerce ministries to set up a coffee fund to assist the planters.

Hundreds of coffee planters from several southern provinces blocked the Phetkasem highway and the rail line in Thung Tako sub-district yesterday afternoon to demand immediate government action to boost coffee prices, which have dropped on the world markets this year.

Raw coffee beans are currently priced at Baht 19 per kilo with the farmers demanding a minimum of Baht 31 per kilo.

Two Bangkok-bound trains from Butterworth and Hat Yai were stranded at Lang Suan district railway station when the growers refused to move off the railway line. Another train from Sungai Kolok district of Narathiwat was halted at the Muang district railway station as rail officials believed more protestors may be blocking the line north of the Muang district station, according to Chumphon railway officials.

A policeman at the Thung Tako subdistrict police station, Pvt Thawatchai Bunsongkaeo, said in a telephone interview last night that the demonstrators had sent their representatives to meet Prime Minister Chatchai in

Bangkok but it was not immediately known whether the representatives had met Chatchai.

Pol Pvt Thawatchai said highway police had asked all motorists travelling from the lower southern provinces to Chumphon's Muang district to go via Ranong province to avoid the blockade.

The rally was continuing at press time (midnight) and there was no immediate reaction from the government.

Coffee Growers End Protest

BK2912023189 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Dec 89 p 7

[Excerpt] Coffee growers ended their protest in Chumphon yesterday morning after their representatives, who met Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan on Wednesday night [27 December], explained to them the Cabinet's plan to help them.

Interior Ministry Permanent Secretary Anek Sitthiprasat said the protesters blocked a railway and a road in Chumphon because they had obtained incorrect information that the Cabinet had decided to postpone consideration of the problem of low coffee prices.

Mr Anek said that in fact the Cabinet yesterday assigned the Finance, Commerce and Agriculture Ministries to work out measures to solve the problem and report to the Cabinet next week. [passage omitted]

International Consensus on Refugees Sought

BK3012031689 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Dec 89 p 2

[Text] Thailand wants backing from other ASEAN states to ensure that any forced repatriation of Vietnamese boat people has full international endorsement.

As host of the regional working group on Indochinese refugees, Thailand is approaching member nations for consultations mid-January, before delegates attend a meeting called in Geneva by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Thai officials said yesterday.

"Thailand stands for multilateral participation in any repatriation of boat people screened out as non-refugees.

"We want it to take place within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA) adopted in June by the International Conference on Indochinese Refugees (ICIR)," an official said.

"At the consultations, we would seek an agreement on this among the ASEAN states," he said.

Thai concern stems from the recent forced repatriation of Vietnamese boat people from Hong Kong, a precedent which took place under a bilateral arrangement between Britain and Vietnam.

The concern deepened following reports that Malaysia may also take similar action, sources said.

The question of forced repatriation is being tackled by the steering committee set up as part of the CPA.

The committee is scheduled to convene in Geneva January 18-19 and some commentators forecast major progress.

A solution of the problem has long stalled on the refusal of Vietnam and the United States to accept the principle of forced repatriation.

"We made clear after the end of the last meeting that we would not be inclined to attend again until there is some change.

"That the UNHCR has convened another meeting of the steering committee shows there is hope for change," an official said.

The proposed preparatory get-together of ASEAN states in Bangkok would address two issues—what to do with boat people who are screened out and how to act if Vietnam and the US continue to oppose involuntary repatriation, he said.

ASEAN states, faced with a continuing outflow of boat people from Vietnam—most of whom are considered economic migrants—on March 14 declared a cut-off date after which new arrivals were not given automatic refugee status.

Thai sources estimated 6,000 boat people have landed in Thailand since that date, but screening did not being until September.

'Crackdown' Planned on Southern Separatists

BK3112022289 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Dec 89 p 1

[Text] Yala—The Government is moving forces into six districts for a major crackdown on southern separatist bandits following the kidnapping of a Yala school teacher on December 18.

Combined task forces comprising civilians, policemen, soldiers and army-trained rangers were sent yesterday to all provincial primary schools to ensure safety for students and teachers.

The main force, comprising six infantry companies, is scheduled to arrive in the province tomorrow to begin the drive, understood to be the first to involve so many soldiers in a single operation against the bandits.

Most of Yala's primary schools have remained shut since the abduction, with teachers refusing to conduct classes until their safety was assured.

Teachers said they would not go back to classes until the results of the crackdown operation were known.

They boycotted classes after bandits kidnapped Mrs Fong Phetbun, acting headmistress of Nikhom Phatthana Phak Tai School in Banang Sala District and held her hostage.

Mrs Fong was later released unhurt after the provincial court accepted a bail request from a local Muslim village headman for the release of an extortion suspect linked with the bandits.

The force is expected to begin scouring Yala forests for the gang on Tuesday [2 January] and the result of the operation is expected to be announced in 15 days, according to operation sources.

Two suspected members of two southern bandit groups surrendered with their weapons to Civilian-Police-Military Unit 43 yesterday.

They were identified as Dorlor Mae and Door-mae Salae.

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian security forces detained and seized arms from seven Thais who said they were members of a separatist movement in southern Thailand, police said.

Three couples and a four-year-old boy from Yala Province were detained two weeks ago, Mohammad Som Sulaiman, police chief in the Malaysian state of Kedah, bordering Thailand, told reporters in the state capital, Alor Setar.

The six adults, wanted by Thai authorities in connection with a number of murders and a kidnapping, were arrested on December 17 and 18 as they entered Malaysia illegally, the official BERNAMA news agency quoted the police chief as saying.

Mohammad Som said the six claimed they belonged to a separatist movement, but he did not give details.

The six adults, who had two M-16 automatic rifles, an AK-47 rifle, a grenade and several rounds of ammunition, would be charged with illegal possession of firearms, Mohammad Som said.

Vietnam

Shevardnadze Interviewed on Cambodian Issue

BK0301162790 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 3—Edward Shevardnadze, foreign minister of the Soviet Union, has granted an interview to VNA and SPK correspondents in Moscow on the Cambodia issue.

Asked to comment on the current situation in the settlement of the Cambodia issue, he said:

"We think that favourable prospects are being opened for a really steady and balanced settlement of this drawn-out regional issue.

"Vietnam has withdrawn its army units from Cambodia, thus creating a new qualitative change for a solution.

"Many countries are striving to find ways of solving the problem at the negotiating table rather than on the battlefield.

"Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has proposed the convening of an informal meeting in Jakarta between representatives of the Cambodian factions, Southeast Asian countries, and France as co-chairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

"Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has proposed that matters relating to the establishment of an international control mechanism on Cambodia, the ceasefire and an end to foreign military aid to all Cambodian parties be considered at that meeting.

"Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans' initiative on the United Nations' role in organizing elections in Cambodia along the Namibia formula is a timely initiative full of prospects.

"For its part, the Soviet Union has proposed a moratorium on military aid to the Cambodian parties. This proposal has been supported by the United States which it considers to be part of an overall solution. "As a demonstration of its good will, the Government of the State of Cambodia has put forth a new and important initiative in response to the proposals of Australia and Thailand. Chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers Hun Sen has declared his readiness to consider the establishment in Cambodia of a UN office entrusted with the task of supervising the implementation of agreements reached among the Khmer factions and the organization of general elections while retaining the present Governments of the State of Cambodia and of Democratic Kampuchea during the transitional period and leaving Cambodia's seat at the United Nations vacant. The leader of the State of Cambodia has called for an early resumption of the negotiation process by convening a new informal meeting in Jakarta within the framework of the Paris forum as proposed by Thailand.

"So, there exists now a whole package of effective and coincidental proposals aimed at continuing and then concluding the present process of finding out a solution. Also a framework of negotiations has been formed to materialize these proposals.

"The important point now is for the parties concerned to show their readiness to make reasonable concessions while taking into account the realities inside and around Cambodia. The Soviet Union has voiced its support for the State of Cambodia's constructive policy and holds that that policy has opened the way to agreements on Cambodia acceptable to each party concerned.

"The Soviet Union has also positively appraised the initiatives of Australia and Thailand. "The Soviet Union calls on all parties concerned to use their influence to end

the bloodshed in Cambodia and prevent its recurrence in the future, and to reach a lasting overall solution to the Cambodia issue."

Asked what is standing in the way of a rapid solution to the Cambodia issue, Edward Shevadnadze said:

"First of all, the Cambodian opposition forces are still bent on using military force. After the Vietnamese pullout, the launching of a military showdown against the Cambodian people is really nonsensical and absurd. In fact, the continued bloodshed is aimed at forcing Phnom Penh to accept the Pol Potists' participation in the transitional power mechanism. The absence of an agreement on ceasefire and on the cessation of military aid to the Cambodian factions is also blocking a solution. "Once again I want to emphasize that the proposals of the Government of the State of Cambodia are opening a direct way to an early solution. These proposals have offered the optimum chance because they take into account the interests of all parties concerned. Let the Cambodian people demonstrate their will and exercise their freedom in deciding the international supervision, their own destiny and the internal structure of their own home as nobody can decide it on behalf of the Cambodian people. The important thing is how to enable all parties concerned to make use of the present favourable conditions to defuse the conflict, and prevent all schemes to impose on the Cambodian people what they cannot accept."

Asked what he thinks of the effect of the settlement of the Cambodian question on the situation in Southeast Asia, the Soviet foreign minister said : "I am firmly concinced that the defusing of the Cambodian conflict, which has for years harboured many regional contradictions, will substantially improve the situation not only in Souteast Asia but also in the Asia-Pacific region. Moreover, it will also be a driving force to promote increasingly positive processes and trends in the region."

U.S. Military Action 'Against' Panama Viewed

BK0301143190 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] About 2 weeks ago, when sending troops into Panama, the United States declared that the American GI's will be withdrawn after arresting General Noreiga and normalizing the situation in that country.

General Noriega has sought political assylum at the Vatican Embassy in Panama, and the United States has made opposition leader, Mr Guillermo Endara, the new Panamanian president. And Washington continues to intensify military activities in that country.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, about 250 American military experts are in Panama for psychological warfare in a bid to heighten American influence in the governmant made up by the United States. The Pentagon is also planning to send another group of 200 psychological war experts to Panama. Their aim, as explained by Washington, is to paint a better image of America following the recent invasion. Reports said American soldiers are in a hectic campaign for search of supporters of General Noriega. Foreign embassies in Panama are faring as badly as Panamanian citizens. The embassies of the Vatican, Cuba, Nicaragua, Libya are cordoned off as the campaign to arrest General Noriega and Panamanian patriots, is underway.

Those U.S. actions have aggravated tension in Panama in the first days of 1990. The country is actually put at U.S. gunpoint. The Panamanian people welcome the new year under shelling and constant threat of U.S. troops. What is more, poverty and diseases are rampant as a result of U.S. aggression.

The U.S. invasion of Panama has come under public fire. Twelve member countries of the European Economic Community requested that the sovereignty of Panama be defended and respected. These countries expressed their readiness to send emergency aid to Panama against U.S. armed aggression. Most of the Latin American countries protested against U.S. acts of aggression against Panama.

Nevertheless, the Washington administration is turning a deaf ear to this public demand, while intensifying its actions against Panama. Their scheme is to turn that country into one in service of American interests. Whether the U.S. can reach its aim is hardly a certainty. And many predecessors of President George Bush failed in their attempt to annex Panama. The Panamanians are determined to frustrate this U.S. scheme. There are reasons to believe that Panama would become a problem for the U.S. Administration.

South Vietnamese Officials To Leave for U.S.

BK0401121690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1125 GMT 4 Jan 90

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, Jan 4 (AFP)—Almost 15 years after the end of the Vietnam war, the first group of former South Vietnamese soldiers and officials is set to leave Friday [5 January] for a new life in the United States. Two early morning Air Vietnam flights will carry 150 passengers from Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, for Bangkok, an official source said here Thursday.

The departures, the fruit of a Vietnam-U.S. accord signed in July after seven years of negotiations, will allow former South Vietnam bureaucrats and members of its pro-American armed forces to leave for the United States. Many of those leaving spent several years in re-education camps after the fall of Saigon in 1975.

"For now, about 700 people will leave per month, but we would like to boost that eventually to 1,500 per month," said a senior official in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here.

According to Vietnamese estimates, some 94,000 families are eligible to leave or around 400,000 to 450,000 persons, he said, "a figure with which the Americans are more or less in agreement." But "the Americans are only accepting 700 persons per month for technical reasons," he said, adding that Vietnam has suggested that the departures take place by boat to speed up the settlement process.

(In Bangkok, a U.S. Embassy spokesman confirmed that the first group of Vietnamese to leave under the program would land in the Thai capital Friday. "At this time, we anticipate that individuals from this group will begin to arrive in the U.S. on or about January 12," he said, adding that the embassy was told that approximately 600 former detainees and their families will depart Vietnam during the month of January for the United States.)

The highest-ranking former South Vietnam officer who will leave Vietnam Friday is Lieutenant Colonel Le Phuoc Hy, 56, who will leave at dawn from Tan Son Nhat airport with his wife and four children aged between 19 and 31. "I am happy to leave but I don't know what will happen there. But the situation here, especially for my children, has forced us to leave," he said. His two sons and two daughters were denied university admission because they were children of a former officer of the South Vietnam army, he said.

Mr. Hy, who spent the entire war in the South Vietnamese Defense Ministry's logistics department, was detained for five years in North Vietnamese camps after he was arrested in June 1975. After his release in 1980 he remained without work and a year later he made his first application to emigrate to the United States.

"I expect to find work in the United States and hope that my children will finally be able to go to university," adding that his brother-in-law, a former member of the South Vietnamese Special Forces, lives in California after leaving the country as an illegal "boat person" in 1976.

Each member of the Hy family is allowed to leave Vietnam with 500 U.S. dollars worth of gold, but, says Mr. Hy, sitting rigidly in a chair of his modest living room, "we are far from possessing that much, and have been living on the earnings of my wife, who is a seamstress."

According to a Western diplomat, an initial list of 2,000 persons was drawn up in September, and interviews by U.S. immigration officials and medical examinations began at the end of October. "We hope that this (program) will lead to an improvement in relations with the United States, but normalization of relations depends on Washington," the Foreign Ministry official said. The two countries have had no diplomatic relations since the end of the Vietnam war.

Book on Vietnam War Memoirs Published

BK0401052390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Introduction by Luong Tran Luan to General Van Tien Dung's book, "A Major Turning Point in the Anti-U.S. Resistance Struggle"]

[Text] Having gone through decades of revolutionary war, those who participated in building various historical processes and who were central figures in past major events are now starting various projects to explain those historical events.

On the occasion of the 45th founding anniversary of the glorious Vietnamese People's Army, the Su That Publishing House published a research project of a memoir type by Senior General Van Tien Dung entitled "A Major Turning Point in the Anti-U.S. Resistance Struggle" dealing with the course of the victorious struggle by troops and people throughout the country against the limited war waged by the U.S. imperialists.

For 21 years, from 1954 to 1975, the U.S. imperialists waged a war of aggression directly against our country. They used many types of warfare invented by US strategists, namely special war, limited war, and Vietnamization war. In the 250 pages of a book composed of 8 chapters, Senior General Van Tien Dung focuses only on the limited war throughout the entire history of the war waged by the United States to oppose and sabotage the revolution in our country.

The title itself of the book "A Major Turning Point in the Anti-U.S. Resistance Struggle" very clearly manifests the author's viewpoint. When the US imperialists dispatched half a million or more U.S. soldiers and client troops to fight in South Vietnam, and fighter planes and warships to attack and destroy North Vietnam—that was the limited war—they escalated their war of aggression against Vietnam to the highest step. Meanwhile, our troops and people displayed an extraordinary effort to defeat the limited war and smash the U.S. plot of aggression and create a major turning point in the war, forcing the United States to de-escalate step by step and finally, shamefully withdraw its troops from Saigon in 1975.

All 8 chapters of the book consistently manifest this idea of the author.

In the 1960's, with a view to deterring communist and national liberation movements, the U.S. warlike circles applied a global counterrevolutionary strategy—the flexible reaction strategy. This strategy's major component was the strategy of a special war, which was applied experimentally to the battlefield in South Vietnam during the first half of the 1960's.

In light of Resolution 15 of the party Central Committee's second plenum in January 1959, which advocated the liberation of South Vietnam through revolutionary force in order to preserve the south, a general uprising was unanimously staged and started by the Ben Tre upheaval, which led to the risky collapse of the Saigon administration in the mid-1960's. On 27 July 1965, U.S. President Lyndon Johnson decided to immediately increase the number of U.S. troops involved in combat in South Vietnam to 125,000 and to transfer the U.S. troops to direct combat duties. He said: So, we—that is, the United States—are participating in a major war in South Vietnam. That was the beginning of the limited war.

Generally, the book presents and explains typical events of the war in order to clarify both sides' strategic schemes to win a decisive victory.

Chapter one: "The Limited War, the Highest Rung on the Ladder"
Chapter four: "The Strongest Effort by the Johnson Administration"
Chapter five: "Frustrate the Rural Pacification Plan"
Chapter six: "The U.S. Air Force's Destructive War Against North Vietnam"

The author presents the ambitions and objectives of the U.S. imperialists in waging a limited war as well as its scale and fierce intensity. In South Vietnam, using a search and kill strategy, the expeditionary U.S. troops concentrated on the two dry season counterattacks in 1965-66 and 1966-67, aiming at eradicating the regular force and the headquarters of the resistance. [remainder of item unmonitorable]

Bulgarian Defense Minister Greets Army Day

BK3112041889 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 28 Dec 89

[Greetings message from Army General Dobri Dzhurov, Bulgarian minister of national defense, to SRV Defense Minister Le Duc Anh; date not given]

[Text] Dear Comrade Minister:

On the occasion of the great 45th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA], on behalf of the cadres and combatants of the Bulgarian People's Army and in my own name, I would like to extend to you my most heartfelt congratulations.

The traditional special friendship between Vietnam and Bulgaria, the identity of views between the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Bulgarian Communist Party on matters of principle in our bilateral relations and on the current development of socialism, and our active mutual support in the ongoing restructuring and renovation processes in our two countries are encouraging our peoples and soldiers to advance to record new achievements.

Your recent visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria is a new moving force for developing and deepening the traditional friendship and loyal fraternity between our two Armies in the interests of the common struggle to defend socialism and world peace.

On the occasion of this great anniversary, I would like to wish the VPA cadres and combatants many new achievements in political and military training. I wish Esteemed Comrade Minister Le Duc Anh many new successes and fresh creative powers in his important position.

Please accept my communist salutations.

Vo Chi Cong Greets Burma's Independence Day

BK0301154990 Hanoi VNA in English 1526 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 3—State Council President Vo Chi Cong today extended his greetings to President of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Gen Saw Maung, on the 42nd independence day of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma (January 4).

In his message, the Vietnamese leader wished the Burmese people success in building a prosperous and happy country, and the friendship between the two peoples further consolidation and development.

Economic Cooperation With USSR, Italy Viewed

BK0401073490 Hanoi VNA in English 0701 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 4—A delegation of the Soviet far eastern province of Kamchatka led by P.P. Zimovok, member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee and first secretary of the provincial party committee, has visited the central province of Thanh Hoa.

During the visit, officials of the two provinces discussed possibilities to promote their economic cooperation. Thanh Hoa will export marble, potatoes, bananas, cabbages, watermelons and frozen meat to Kamchatka. In return, Kamchatka will make joint investments in fishery, tea and coffee production and tourism in Thanh Hoa.

—A memo on promoting friendly relations and cooperation between Ho Chi Minh City and Milan, Italy, was signed recently.

On healthcare, the two cities will exchange information, experiences and techniques in medicine production and acupuncture. They will exchange information and documents on scientific and technical advances, and encourage tourism between the two countries.

New Joint Venture With Hong Kong Reported

BK3012091689 Hanoi VNA in English 0712 GMT 30 Dec 89

[Excerpt] Hanoi VNA December 30—The Ngoc Tien Fishing Cooperative of the coastal province of Quang Ninh, some 150 km northeast of Hanoi, has entered a joint venture with Zendic firm of Hong Kong in rearing garrupa [grouper] for export. [passage omitted]

Foreign Trade Information Seminar Held

BK0201082490 Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 2—A seminar on international trade information in 1990 was recently held in Ho Chi Minh City.

The seminar discussed measures to provide information on international economic relations, markets, prices, trade services, international investment and cooperation and economic relations between Vietnam and foreign countries.

The trade information centre this year planned to publish latest news bulletins, documents and brochures and bilingual reviews introducing home market, domestic goods and international trade activities to meet the demand for trade information.

Nguyen Van Linh's New Year Message to Nation

BK0101032390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 31 Dec 89

["Letter of greetings to compatriots on the occasion of Tet of the Year of the Horse" from Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; date not given—recorded]

[Text] On the occasion of the New Year, through the paper NHAN DAN, on behalf of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, I would like to extend my best wishes to the people of all strata and nationalities, all cadres and party members, the people's armed forces, the people's public security forces, and the combatants now enjoying Tet in reunion with their families after fulfilling their international duty.

I warmly greet and welcome the combatants of the Vietnam People's Army who are defying hardships day and night to resolutely defend the offshore islands and land that have been part of Vietnamese territory since time immemorial. I would like to extend my solicitous regards to the war invalids, the families of fallen soldiers, and the families who have rendered meritorious services to the revolution. I send my affectionate sentiments to youths, teenagers, and children. I also express the affection of our compatriots throughout the country to Vietnamese currently living abroad.

Bidding farewell with warm feelings to the outgoing year with its heartening progress, we enter 1990—the Year of the Horse—with important historic anniversaries and with weighty, complex tasks. For the immediate future, we enjoy many advantages created by the positive changes last year. However, many difficulties and trials remain to be overcome. Nevertheless, with the traditional heroism and and dauntlessness of our entire people, army, and party, we will surely record new successes on the path of renovation.

Looking forward to celebrating the glorious anniversaries of the class and nation in 1990, we will make every effort to successfully implement the Resolution on the 1990 Socioeconomic Plan recently adopted by the National Assembly so as to bring about practical results in raising the people's living standards and building the material and technical bases of socialism. To do so, each cadre and party member, each patriotic citizen, and especially cadres and party members in high positions, should conduct themselves in an exemplary fashion in study and action in keeping with Uncle Ho's thoughts, virtues, and work style. Particularly, every day they must realize by practical deeds each word and idea Uncle Ho noted down in his sacred testament. This is the best way for every one of us to rise up to the level of the task entrusted by history to our entire party and people—to build a socialist society with its objective and motive being of the people, by the people, and for the people.

With the overflowing sentiments inspired by the new spring, in evaluating achievements and failures, I would like to remind cadres and party members from the center to the grass roots of the words used by Uncle Ho to criticize himself in the early days of the revolutionary administration: I must truthfully say that the successes were due to the efforts of our compatriots, but the abovementioned shortcomings were a result of our own mistakes.

Welcoming the Year of the Horse, I hope that with their renewed resolve and fortitude, our entire party, people, and Army will continue to strive for even greater successes in implementing the Resolution of the Sixth Party Congress to take the cause of socialist revolution to new heights for the happiness of the present and future generations.

Nguyen Van Linh Visits 9th Army Division

BK0101041490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] Celebrating the 45th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army, cadres and combatants of the 9th Division of IV Corps welcomed two great joys: the "Hero of the Armed Forces" title awarded by the state for the second time and a visit by Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh was deeply moved by his reunion with the close comrades-in-arms who once shared his joy and sorrow during the extremely hard years of fighting, which were also filled with revolutionary heroism. What aroused even stronger emotions

in him was his meeting with the parents of fallen heroes Chu Van Thu, Doan Hoang Minh, Nguyen Van So, and with several generations of the division's commanders who have become senior party and Army cadres or have retired.

The comrade general secretary solicitously inquired about the work and living conditions of each person he met. Addressing the division's cadres and combatants and other participants in the Army Day celebrations, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh commended the 9th Division's outstanding contributions during the war for national liberation as well as during its performance of international duty in Cambodia. He hoped that the division's cadres and combatants will continue to improve themselves in all respects and build strong party and communist youth union organizations in their units to fulfill the task of building and defending the socialist homeland in the new situation.

He also reminded Army units, including the 9th Division, to regularly coordinate with the people and the people's public security forces under the guidance of various party organizations to oppose the multifaceted war of sabotage waged by the enemy. They must bring into play the character of Uncle Ho's soldiers, always maintaining total readiness and taking the lead in the performance of all new tasks. It was his wish that the 9th Division will continue to firmly maintain its traditions of a unit twice awarded the "Hero of the Armed Forces" title and to fulfill the glorious tasks entrusted by the party, the state, and the people.

Before taking leave, the comrade general secretary advised the division's commanders to pay attention to the material and spiritual life of their men and to maintain close contact and promote solidarity with the people in the localities where the division is stationed.

Do Muoi Praises Cement Union's Achievements

BK0101080390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] On 25 December, Comrade Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent a letter of commendation to cadres and workers of the Vietnam Cement Union.

The letter said: I have learned with great pleasure that you have overfulfilled the state plan for 1989. The expanded facilities of the Ha Tien Cement Factory and the white cement production line will soon begin experimental production. On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the cement industry, 8 January 1930-8 January 1990, on behalf of the Council of Ministers I extend to all cadres and workers of the Vietnam Cement Union my solicitous regards and congratulations for the achievements you have recorded despite the many common difficulties in the national economy and in the cement industry itself. With the results obtained by the union in 1989, with the spirit of developing the revolutionary traditions built by the cement industry over the past 60 years, and also with the creative implementation of the economic line of the party and state, I hope that the Vietnam Cement Union will successfully fulfill and overfulfill the tasks of the state plan in cement and roofing materials production in 1990, achieving ever better quality, lower production costs, and higher production and business efficiency. In so doing it will be able to accumulate capital for investment in the development of the cement industry so as to meet the demand of the national economy, to contribute to satisfactorily implementing the party's three major economic programs, and to prove itself worthy of being a national technical economic sector.

CPV Central Committee's New Year Open Letter

BK0101154290 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 1—The Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee has called on the entire party, people and Army to promote democracy and launch a mass movement for revolutionary deeds, the core of which is the consolidation of the party from the centre down to the grass roots.

In its open letter on the occasion of the New Year, the year of major anniversaries in Vietnam, the CPV Central Committee wrote:

"1990 is the year of major anniversaries of our country when our people will recall the teachings of the great President Ho Chi Minh, promote the communist party's glorious tradition, the revolutionary heroism of the nation and bring into play the revolutionary gains, strengthen the national unity and determination to defend the motherland and build socialism. It is a transitional year in which our nation embarks on the last decade of the 20th century with great challenges before them. It is also an important year for the revolutionary work of our party and people in a world situation which is developing in a very complicated way.

"Renovation is the revolutionary cause of the entire party and people. Renovation along the socialist orientation and with firm steps is an objective necessity and of vital significance for our country.

"1990 must be a year in which the Communist Party of Vietnam continues to renovate and improve the quality of its leadership. This is a decisive factor for our country's stability and steadiness in all circumstances and for the success of the renovation process.

"The party must reorganize itself, quickly renovate its leadership in all respects of social life, renovate its ideological work, mass mobilisation as well as its organizational and personnel work and clearly define the function, tasks of the party, the state and mass organisations and their relations. The all-sided preparations for the coming 7th party congress must also be renovated so

that it would be an occasion for mobilizing the wisdom of the entire party and people under the principle of democratic centralism.

"1990 must be a year in which our people will carry out the external policy of peace, namely to develop our solidarity and friendship with the peoples of the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia and of other socialist countries, and with the international communist and workers movement, the national liberation and non-alignment movements; to strive for the normalization of our relations with China; expand our cooperative relations with all countries in the region and across the world on the principle of equality, mutual benefits, respect for each other's independenne and sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs."

Paper Welcomes 'New Year of Self-Confidence'

BK0101084390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 31 Dec 89

["Text" of NHAN DAN editorial: "A New Year of Self-Confidence and Enthusiasm"; date not given]

[Text] The country is now in springtime. The year 1990 is here with us after 4 years of the renovation process. Over the past 1,000 days and more, there has been much work and untold hardships and difficulties to overcome. The most important task on which our entire Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and people have concentrated the most attention and greatest amount of energy has been how to affirm in reality and by concrete achievements the value of the resolution of the Sixth CPV Congress on renovation.

Not too long ago, all society had to grapple with a disturbing question: Is it true that we have found a way out? Or are we still in a tunnel with no exit?

Yet, as 1989 draws to an end, the outlook and the question-raising method have changed. The country has moved from a state of chronic food shortages to self-sufficiency, and has managed to increase its grain reserves, with a certain amount set aside for export. Inflation, once bolting like a wild horse, has now been restrained. Prices tend to be more stable. A market opened to the smooth circulation of goods throughout the country has taken shape. The economy has begun to be placed under a new mechanism of management. National defense and security are firmly maintained. Thus, realities in 1989 have affirmed that, though the crisis is not yet over, a momentum has been created for us to escape from it.

The world is seething with a state of struggle mixed with cooperation in peaceful coexistence. Disarmament is being realized step by step. The national liberation movement has scored new victories marked by events in Cambodia, Namibia, Palestine, and El Salvador. The crisis exploding in a series of socialist countries as a consequence of many errors has shown the objective necessity and urgency of restructuring, reform, and renovation which have to be carried out to preserve and develop socialism.

Imperialism has altered its tone and tactics but its nature and strategies have remained unchanged. It has feverishly counterattacked the revolutionary movements and carried out peaceful evolution, ready to jump into any country. Most blatant was its recent dirty aggression against Panama. However, the imperialists themselves are also torn apart by inherent contradictions.

The year 1990 is the last year of an eventful decade. It is also the year that opens the door to the last decade of this century. Entering the new year, our people are full of self-confidence and enthusiasm, optimistic but not subjective, alert for the enemy but unperturbed. In the process of socialist renovation process, though very important initial successes have been recorded, long subsequent steps remain to be made, and great difficulties and obstacles still lie ahead.

A rapid advance is possible only on the basis of a steady position. Looking at us and at our friends, we feel even more confident in our own party and nation. Celebrating Uncle Ho's birth centenary, the party's 60th founding anniversary, our state's 45th anniversary, and the 15th anniversary of the total liberation of the fatherland and its advance to socialism, our entire party, people, and Army should highly concentrate their moral and material strength to advance the cause of renovation toward stability and development.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Welcomes New Year

BK0201125290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 31 Dec 89

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 1 January editorial: "The 1990's Have Opened Up"]

[Text] The 1980's have passed with tremendous upheavals in the world. Our country has further affirmed the correctness of the trend of renovation adopted by the sixth party congress. The year 1990 has arrived, opening up before mankind a decade with new upheavals that will surely bring about more progress and democracy and also no less difficulties and complexities. After 3 years' implementation of the sixth party congress resolution and subsequent resolutions of the party Central Committee and the state, our country has created positive changes in the economic, social, security, national defense, and diplomatic fields.

Party lines and state policies have entered into the life of the laboring people and become a real source of material strength. Life, which serves as a yardstick for measuring truth, has helped our party and state promptly readjust and revise viewpoints and policies found to be no longer suitable. The people have met with less strains in their life than in past years. True democracy has been established and is developing its effects on society. The people's confidence in the party has been gradually

restored and strengthened. The goal of advancing toward socialism has been further consolidated, and it has been considered by our people as the country's unswerving objective.

Life is changing constantly. The successes we have achieved are considerable, but our country's situation at the threshold of the 1990's is still fraught with difficulties as far as the people's ideals, objectives, and aspirations are concerned. Our economy remains poor, and our society still faces serious problems. Although relative peace has come to the entire country, we are not yet truly free from worry. Outside our frontiers, the enemy has yet to give up its dark scheme to oppose and undermine the revolution. Here and there and at one time or another, hot spots have erupted into armed invasions, local armed conflicts, or wars; and this requires that we further heighten vigilance.

Entering the 1990's, we must carry out even more satisfactorily the two strategic tasks of successfully building socialism and firmly defending the Vietnamese socialist fatherland. In 1990, the first year of the decade, our country will mark important historical events—the 60th founding anniversary of the party, the birth centenary of Uncle Ho, the 45th national day, and the 15th anniversary of the total liberation of the South. Our country, together with fraternal countries and the international communist movement, will also celebrate the 120th birth anniversary of Vladimir Ilych Lenin. The year 1990 is also the last year of the 5-year 1986-90 plan, a year in which we must create important material conditions in preparation for the plans for the years that follow. The entire country will launch broad, deep, realistic, and effective revolutionary movements of the masses to celebrate these historic days.

We will actively strive to fulfill the socioeconomic objectives for 1990 that were approved recently at the Eighth National Assembly's sixth session—namely, continuing to stabilize the socioeconomic situation, stepping up production and circulation, expanding external economic activities, resolving social problems step by step, continuing to develop a firm and strong all-people national defense system, and continuing to broaden democracy.

In spite of the myriad of difficulties facing the nation, by uniting together, trusting in the party's leadership, placing firm confidence in the road we have chosen, developing to a high degree the strength of the mass movement, and effectively winning the cooperation and support of fraternal socialist countries and friends throughout the world, we will generate a vigorous driving force to overcome new trials and constantly push the revolution in our country forward.

The 1990's, which have opened up with this year of 1990, will bring about new successes and new factors. However, difficulties and complexities still abound. Let our entire party, Army, and people close ranks; bring into play the successes already recorded; calmly, confidently, and actively resolve the difficulties and problems facing socioeconomic life; and persistently carry on the renovation process. By so doing, we will surely win new, yet greater successes to set up a shining milestone on the road of renovation charted by our party since its sixth congress.

Press Law, Penal Code Amendments Made Public

BK0301124190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] This afternoon, the Office of the National Assembly and Council of State and the Ministry of Information held a news conference to make public the Law on the Press and the Law on Amending and Adjusting Certain Provisions of the Criminal Code recently adopted by the Sixth Session of the Eighth National Assembly.

Comrade Phan Hien, vice information minister, outlined the formulation process and the contents of the Law on the Press. He said: No less than 2 years and 5 months had elapsed between the beginning of the drafting of the law in July 1987 and its adoption by the Eighth National Assembly's Sixth Session on 28 December 1989. During that period, the law was amended, revised, rewritten, and improved 23 times. Since the draft law was released, the Office of the National Assembly and Council of State had received 86 roundups of opinions from various provinces, cities, central organizations and agencies, and the Vietnam Journalists Association and its chapters, along with hundreds of articles from central and local newspapers. During the recent National Assembly session, deputies held lively discussions on the law, and hundreds of constructive suggestions were condensed into 79 points. The law was adopted by the National Assembly with 422 votes.

At the news conference, Comrade Trinh Hong Duong, deputy chief justice of the Supreme People's Court, presented the Law on Amending and Adjusting Certain Provisions of the Criminal Code. He pointed out: The Criminal Code adopted by our Seventh National Assembly during its Ninth Session came into effect on 1 January 1986. Over 4 years the Criminal Code has proved to be an effective tool in our struggle against crime. However, the process of implementation has also shown that some of its stipulations were not very rational. Therefore, it was necessary to amend and adjust the code. On 28 December 1989, the National Assembly unanimously adopted the amendments and adjustments.

Comrade Trinh Hong Duong then went on to present the specific amendements and adjustments.

At the news conference, Information Minister Tran Hoan and Comrades Phan Hien, Trinh Hong Duong, and Nguyen Dinh Loc also answered many questions from newsmen.

The text of the Law on the Press and the Law on Amending and Adjusting Certain Provisions of the Criminal Code will be made public in the mass media soon.

Assembly Deputy Comments

BK0101105490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Dec 89

[Excerpt from speech by Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh, deputy from Ho Chi Minh City, at 28 December National Assembly debate on law on the press—recorded]

[Summary] From the very beginning of my speech, I want to make it clear that I only want to express my personal opinion about the law on the press and that my views are based on facts alone.

First of all, the role and function of the press are important but not vital because there are other forums for people to express their views.

I also deem it necessary to point out that our debates should be based on the concrete situation at home and abroad.

Let us go back to the situation prior to the liberation of South Vietnam. There were three parties then: the Thieu regime, the liberation front, and the third political force of which I was one of the leaders. The first thing I did immediately after liberation day was to dissolve my organization, being fully aware of the fact that imperialism had planted its agents in our ranks and sought ways to sow disunity among our people.

Though I did not collaborate with any private newspapers, I did demand that all party organs, first of all the paper SAIGON GIAI PHONG, serve as forums for both the party and the people. As a result, the words The Voice of City Residents have been added to the paper's masthead.

What I want to point out is that the law on the press must be applied to all party organizations, mass societies, and individuals. Why? Because reality has shown that there have been cases of party organizations and mass societies taking advantage of loopholes to commit serious violations against the people's democratic rights.

'Urgent Measures' Executed To Cut Rice Prices

BK3012051289 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Rice prices in Hanoi have begun to drop by 30-40 dong per kilogram since the afternoon of 27 December. In other provinces, however, rice prices have increased, though only slightly. Among the people, an urge to hoard rice in small amounts has developed. Meanwhile, the prices of other commodities have remained stable.

Implementing the directives of the party Central Committee Secretariat and the chairman of the Council of Ministers, yesterday, Comrade Nguyen Cong Tan, minister of agriculture and food industry, met with officials of Hanoi, other northern provinces, and state agencies concerned to decide on a number of urgent measures to cope with the situation, including an order that the Central General Food Corporation and the Hanoi Food Corporation immediately sell their reserves of medium- and high-grade rice on the market at 10 percent lower than the current market price and that additional outlets be set up in various marketplaces and population centers to make it convenient for consumers. An effort will be made to gradually reduce rice prices until they are stable.

State Economic Sector's 'Inspiring' 1989 Results

BK0201154990 Hanoi VNA in English 1358 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 2—(OANA ECOVNA)—1989 was a year of big trials for the state-owned economic sector in Vietnam marked by stiff competition by other economic sectors.

Entering the race, the state sector, which until recently had been greatly favoured by subsidisation and monopoly rights in many respects, showed visible embarassment due to its cumbersome and inefficient managerial mechanism and outdated technology. May 1989 saw the climax of its hard time: many enterprises faced acute shortage of capital due to the unsalability of more than 1,000 billion dong worth of stock, 20 percent of the workforce were laid off, and some district-level factories were closed down. The question of reverting to the state subsidisation system was raised by not a few in the economic leading staff.

However, most enterprises were resolved to exercise their autonomy and accept the challenge. They have focused their efforts on four points: diversifying their products to expand consumers' choice, applying new technology to improve quality, streamlining the workforce and saving materials to bring down prices, and seeking outlets through direct contacts and advertisement. The result obtained so far has been modest, but inspiring in view of the rocky beginnings it experienced: the state economic sector registered a 3 percent increase in its industrial output in 1989, and contributed 800 billion dong to the state budget, or 40 billion dong more than in 1988.

Though by now about 30 percent of the state-owned enterprises still remain unable to tide it over, the state economic sector as a whole has created a momentum with which to enter the new year, and it is expected to make new strides because so far the state-owned enterprises have used only 60 percent of their capacity.

Decision on Military Hospital Fee Collection

BK0201080690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 26 Dec 89

[Summary From Poor Reception] "The Ministry of National Defense recently issued Decision No 272-QDQP on collecting part of the hospital fees by military hospitals. On 28 November, the Joint Military Medical and Financial Department issued Directive No 1265-QYTC on implementing this decision.

"According to the decision, from now on military hospitals are permitted to set aside 25-30 percent of their operating funds to cover medical treatment for the people, including 5-10 percent to be spent for hospitalization."

Australia

Envoy Leaves for New Round of Cambodia Talks

BK0301062890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0616 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Canberra, Jan 3 (AFP)—Australia's special envoy Michael Costello left here Wednesday to begin a second round of talks aimed at finding peace for Cambodia, a senior Foreign Affairs Department spokesman said here.

The spokesman said that Mr. Costello left for Bangkok, the first stop on a five-nation tour to further discuss a peace plan for the Indo-Chinese state proposed last November by Foreign Minister Gareth Evans. Mr. Costello is Thursday to meet Khmer Rouge representative Khieu Samphan in Bangkok before continuing on to Hanoi, Phnom Penh, Paris, New York and Washington.

The spokesman said that Mr. Costello undertook an initial round of dicussions of the plan last December, which focuses on replacing the Vietnam-backed Hun Sen regime with a United Nations administration until free elections can be held. It also proposes that the Coalition Government of Democratic Kamupchea (CGDK), comprising Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Son Sann and the Khmer Rouge, vacate Cambodia's seat at the UN.

The spokesman said that the initial round of talks—involving representatives of Vietnam, Cambodia, China, the Soviet Union and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)—were perceived by Mr. Evans to be sufficiently encouraging to send his emissary on a second round of consultation.

Fiji

Britain To Restore Military Links With Fiji

BK0401063090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0606 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Suva, Jan 4 (AFP)—Britain has decided to drop an informal ban on military aid to Fiji and has agreed to send an army officer to help with military training, an official said here Thursday. British Embassy First Secretary Paul Harvey said that London would send a senior Army officer, most probably a major, to prepare officer cadets before they go overseas for training.

Mr. Harvey said that although British military aid had not been granted since the two coups in the former Commonwealth member state in 1987, "any requests would have been considered on a case by case basis."

The former Royal Fiji military forces' use of British training facilities was stopped after the first coup in May 1987, when the current military commander Major General Rabuka toppled the elected government of Timoci Bavadra.

"We sort of had an informal understanding that if a request was made in 1987 or 1988 it was almost certainly going to be turned down," Mr. Harvey said. He said that Britain had decided "military aid could be given to Fiji" after seeing in 1989 progress towards drawing up a new constitution to replace the one abrogated in October 1987. It had also become evident that the government in Fiji "wasn't going to be a repressive military type regime we see in other third world countries."

Mr. Harvey said that last year three Fiji officers received training in Britain—one from the Army and two from the Navy. Fiji's officer cadets would be going to Sandhurst in Britain, and to Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan for training.

Mr. Harvey said that the Fiji Military Forces (FMF) had yet to submit details of the proposed training course the British officer would help to set up. He said he was unaware of FMF plans to establish an officer training school in the capital. Discussions between the FMF and the embassy related to pre-departure courses for officers who were to receive overseas officer training, Mr. Harvey said.

Last month the former commander of Fiji's military, New Zealand's Brigadier Ian Thorpe, was in Suva looking at the possibility of setting up an officer training school. But Brigadier Thorpe said he was acting as "a private citizen" and not at the behest of New Zealand, which suspended military and other aid along with Australia in 1987.